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COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Tories To Win

By this time tomorrow, B Hongkong can expect to have a pretty good idea of whether the Conservatives remain the governing political party in Britain, or if they are to be superseded by the Socialists. In 1951, with just over half the seats accounted for, Labour had 'lost' eight key constituencies and it was possible to forecast with accuracy that the Tories would take over the government: a similar trend tomorrow would justify the same conclusion.

Throughout the election campaign the popularity polls have favoured the Conservatives, some going so far as to indicate a landslide with the Tories obtaining a House of Commons majority of up to 100 seats. But these tests of public opinion can never be considered conclusive, particularly as they cannot hope to determine how voting will develop in the 44 marginal constituencies, the results of which are capable of decisively swinging the fortunes of either Socialists or Conservatives.

But vague though they are in their approach to voters in an endeavour to assess popular political opinion, the straw polls this year are backed by a number of practical considerations. The housewives, whose votes are all-important, have a variety of reasons for helping to return the Tories to power.

FIRST among them is the knowledge that the housewife can shop freely, obtain anything and in any quantity within the family budget. The psychological effect of this new freedom has been profound, and the women voters are not likely to forget that it was the Conservative government which brought all rationing to an end less than a year ago.

Nor is their satisfaction with this state of affairs likely to be adversely affected by the all-round increase in commodity prices. These were somewhat startling when the last of the official controls were removed, but most daily commodities have now found their true price levels, and wage adjustments have allowed the average family to enjoy more food and other necessities without imperilling their financial resources.

Six months ago, when the retail price of tea soared to around nine shillings a pound, and the British housewife became an extremely irate and frustrated person, the Conservatives would probably have been voted out of office, but since then there has been a marked fall in tea prices, and the housewife is no longer threatened with being deprived of what is to her, an integral daily asset and necessity.

THESE may appear to be rather insignificant factors in influencing the women's vote; they are, in truth, vital, as every British politician is fully aware. It is fair to assume that the "floating" female vote will very largely go to the Tories in today's election.

There are other considerations of wider appeal likely to favour the Conservatives, principally a popular Budget. And running a close second is the prospects of top-level Big Four conferences which the whole of the British electorate hope will lead to positive results in finding solutions to current nerve-wracking international problems.

The Conservatives have many things in their favour, including a good record of governing during the past three and a half years. They can expect to be returned today with a majority of up to fifty.

General
Election

Contest
On Domestic
Issues

LAST-MINUTE PLEAS

London, May 25.

Britain wound up its fourth postwar election campaign in tense calm tonight with Sir Anthony Eden's Conservatives a confident 5-to-1 bookmakers' favourite for victory in tomorrow's vote.

Next move was up to 35 million Britons who are expected to go to the polls, beginning at 7 a.m. The final verdict was due on Friday, some time after noon.

If they chose a return to Mr Attlee's Socialists and the Welfare State, it would be the biggest upset since Sir Winston Churchill was swept from office by a landslide in 1945. It was Sir Winston's resignation last month which put Sir Anthony in office.

But all the weathervanes indicated otherwise. All the public opinion surveys were forecasting a Tory win by between 50 and 100 seats. Just over 1,400 candidates are contesting the 630 seats in the new Parliament.

Douglas Stuart, one of London's biggest bookmaking firms, said it was laying 5-to-1 against a Labourite win.

"Bettors think it's a sure thing and we aren't taking any more money on the Conservatives," a spokesman told the United Press.

If the Conservatives are returned to office for another five years, it will mean Britain believes the promises of continuing "Tory prosperity" and wants Sir Anthony to speak for her at the four-power meeting with Russia which handed him his biggest campaign boost.

The Socialists said he used the top-level talks as a vote-getting stunt. "Send Attlee—You can trust Mr Attlee" their election posters said.

The issues were mainly domestic—free enterprise under a "property-owning democracy," in Sir Anthony's phrase, versus more cradle-to-the-grave security and nationalisation of basic industry—since there was little disagreement on foreign policy.

Both Conservative and Labour official policy favoured building the hydrogen bomb, although the Socialists want an immediate ban on further nuclear tests. Both believe in the Atlantic alliance, NATO, and close ties with the United States.

Both would like to see Communist China recognised and admitted to the United Nations.

China Mail &
Election
Results

In order to give the fullest possible coverage of the British general election results, the China Mail tomorrow (Friday) will publish two editions.

The first will be on the streets between 11.30 a.m. and 12 noon, and will give the state of parties up to 11 o'clock Hongkong time.

The second and final edition will be published during the afternoon, and is expected to give the state of the parties when counting closes in England for the night, by which time it is probable that half of the total results will be known.

Sir Anthony, 57, and his Socialist opponent, quiet, typical middleclass Mr Attlee, 72, and probably fighting the last election of his career, wound up the campaign in their home constituencies of Warwick and Leamington, and West Walthamstow. Sir Anthony pleaded for a big majority "so that we can get on with the job."

Party headquarters called a 50-seat majority a working majority, while over 100 could be labelled a Tory landslide. In the last Parliament they held only a slim 321-294 margin over Labour. That gave them a majority of 27 over the

TORIES START 5-1 FAVOURITES

Relieved Of
His Post



Admiral Robert Carne, who has been relieved of his post as Chief of Naval Operations by President Eisenhower.

Big 4 Talks: July 18
Will Suit Britain

London, May 25.

The Foreign Office stated tonight that neither the date nor the venue for the Big Four "summit" conference had been agreed but diplomatic sources said July 18 was acceptable to Britain.

They were commenting on reports from Paris that it had been agreed in principle that the four-government leaders would meet from July 18 to 21.

The government here hopes it will be possible to reach agreement with Russia on both the date and place of the meeting before the Big Four foreign ministers meet in San Francisco on June 20. If these decisions are left until then it might be difficult to arrange in time accommodation for the official delegations and more than 1,000 reporters and cameramen expected to attend the conference.

Britain, France and the United States are likely to agree on July 18 as the opening date of the top-level meeting and the

FORMER PREMIER OF
S. VIETNAM ARRESTED
Situation Becomes Explosive

Saigon, May 25.

The South Vietnam Revolutionary Committee arrested a former Premier, Mr Tran Van Huu, today in a move which threatened to explode yet another political crisis in this strife-torn State.

Mr Huu, a powerful and influential politician, was taken into custody at Tay Ninh, the capital of the Cao Dai sect and brought back to Saigon under house arrest.

It was not known whether the Prime Minister, Mr Ngo Dinh Diem, would support the action by the Revolutionary Committee.

The Committee, though rumoured to be the power behind Mr Diem, has no legal authority whatsoever.

Mr Huu's arrest added another under to an already explosive situation which included these developments.

Reports that large-scale fighting between Government troops and Hoa Hao rebels is taking place in the lower Mekong could not be confirmed but officials said that an all-out battle could flare up momentarily.

The Government has charged that Mr Diem's arch enemy, former Army Chief of Staff General Nguyen Van Hinh, is advising the Hoa Hao command in the Mekong, and that Gen. Hinh will call on various national army units to desert the Prime Minister.

The Hoa Hao and the Binh Xuyen sect, thrown out of Saigon in bloody fighting earlier this month, have threatened to blockade Saigon tonight so tightly that "not a single grain of rice will get through."

OFFENSIVE EXPECTED
The Government offensive to break the Hoa Hao and Binh Xuyen hold on the rice growing areas of the Mekong basin was expected at any moment.

But it has not yet started, military sources here said. Today's action, according to a military communiqué, included the blowing up of two bridges by the rebels, an ambush of a Government-munitions convoy and the disarming by National Army troops of two Hoa Hao companies which had been surrounded by superior Government forces. No casualty figures were given.

The Government has rushed 30 battalions into the threatened area and placed them under the command of Col. Le Van Duc, who is regarded by French Army circles as the most brilliant operational soldier in the Vietnam National Army.

Col. Duc is opposed by 40,000 well-armed guerrillas of Hoa Hao Generals Ba Cut and Tran Van Soai and possibly by his own former Commander-in-Chief, 39-year-old General Hinh.—United Press.

US BACKING
Washington, May 25.
Premier Ngo Dinh Diem can count on continued support from the United States in his campaign against the Hoa Hao sect and the remnant Binh Xuyen dissidents, officials said today.

The official Washington view is that Mr Diem represents a legal government of the people and the troops deploying against him are maintaining the law of the land.

State Department officials said today that the United States was paying "very close attention" to the developing situation in South Vietnam. But they would make no formal comment on the grounds that Mr Diem was acting in a strictly internal matter.

There is little concern here over the deployment of the

Terrorists
Slay 6
In Ambush

Constantine, May 25.

A French administrator, a French officer and four Algerian scouts were found dead on the road from Quantis to Tebessa today, and a mobile group of about 30 Algerian rural police has disappeared, following a terrorist ambush yesterday.

The heads of the administrator and officer had been crushed while the throats of the Algerian scouts had been slit. Vehicles belonging to the convoy had been burned or overturned.

The group which set out yesterday for Tebessa from Quantis informed their Quantis headquarters by radio when the ambush began. The rural police disappeared with their arms and radio equipment.

Two companies of infantry and a helicopter are now patrolling the area where the attack took place. The authorities believed the terrorists were the same who Quantis was attacked last week.—France-Press.

Russians Due
In Belgrade
Today

Belgrade, May 26.

Soviet leaders, headed by Nikolai Bulganin and Nikita Khrushchev, will arrive today (Thursday) at Zemun airport, near Belgrade, for talks with President Tito, the newspaper Politika announced.

The newspaper said they would be met at the airport by President Tito and other members of the Yugoslav Government.

Politika said it expected that priority would be given in the talks to the study of new measures for improving relations between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union.

Then the leaders of the two countries would review the international situation.

It was expected the Belgrade conference would disclose the general lines of Soviet foreign policy following the signature of the Austrian state treaty.—Reuter.

Tunnel Explosion

Tokyo, May 25.

Two workers were killed and two others seriously injured in a tunnel explosion today in Yuzawa town, Niigata Prefecture, central Japan.

Police reported the accident was believed to have occurred when excavators working using dynamite misjudged the fuse timing.—China Mail Special.

HELICOPTER
TRAGEDY

London, May 25.

A helicopter, crashing today on the jetty of West Ichen, in Sussex, killed a former Air Vice-Marshal of the Royal Air Force, 56-year-old Sir Francis Mellish, who was standing on the pier.

A passenger in the helicopter, which belonged to the British Navy, was also killed, but the pilot escaped unhurt.

Sir Francis Mellish, who retired last year from the Air Force, was Commander-in-Chief of the British air units in Malaya from 1949 to 1951.—France-Press.

There is little concern here over the deployment of the

STOP PRESS

Polling Booths
Open

London, May 25.

Early-bird Britons streamed to the polls today to decide if their nation endorses Sir Anthony Eden and his Tories or turns back to Welfare State Socialism.

The fourth General Election since the war found the Conservatives firm favourites to win, according to pollsters and bookies alike. The big question was, by how much?

Thousands of police-guarded polling stations opened promptly at 7 a.m., and many voters cast their ballots en route to work.—United Press.

Treaty Ratified

Moscow, May 25.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet today ratified the Warsaw treaty of friendship and mutual aid between Russia and seven East European Communist states. Tass, the Soviet news agency, announced.

Reuter.

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"A Remarkable Film"—Daily Sketch.
 "A Very Fine Piece..."—London Time.
 "Rich and Ripe Melodrama"—The People.



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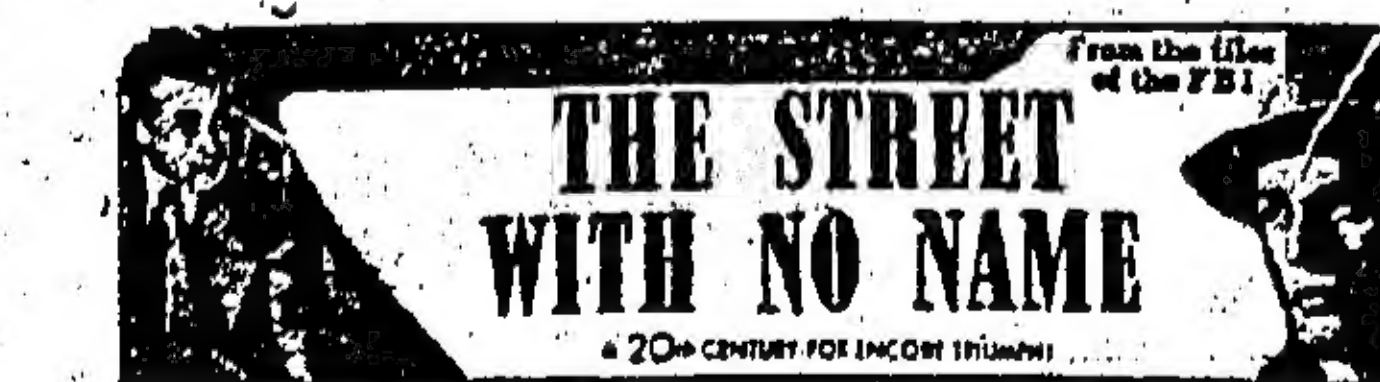


★ NEXT CHANGE ★

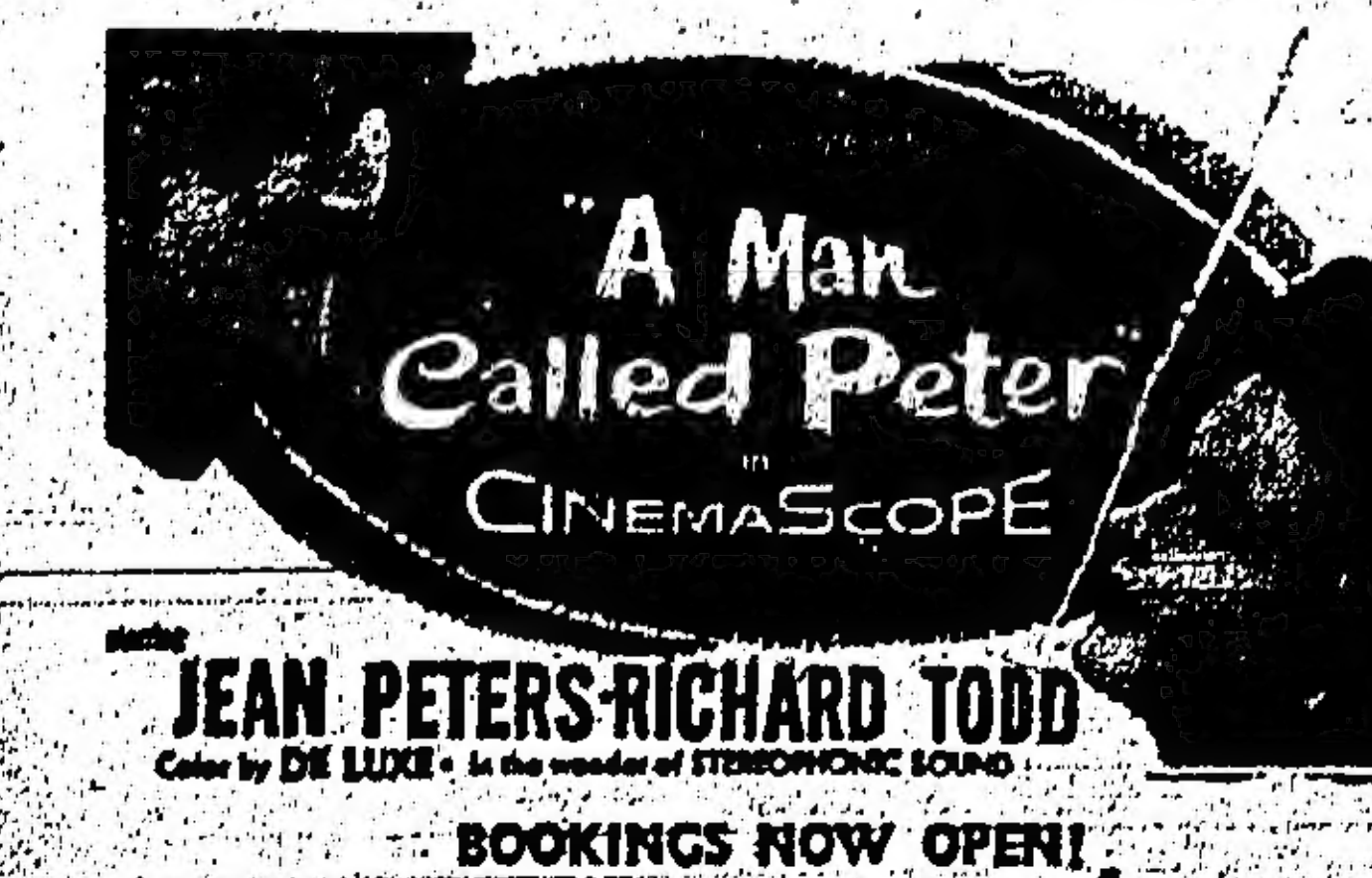


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KASHMIR DEADLOCK

BREAKING

New Atmosphere Prevails After Discussions

New Delhi, May 25.

The Kashmir deadlock between India and Pakistan is slowly being broken as a result of recent talks between the Prime Ministers of both countries, informed sources, said today.

The recent meetings between the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, and the Pakistani Prime Minister, Mr Mohammad Ali, here were described as "cordial, brotherly and friendly."

Heading For 14th Husband

Los Angeles, May 25.

Mrs Beverly Nina O'Malley, 45, a shapely blonde barmaid who is believed to hold a world record for divorce, is preparing to marry for the 14th time.

Mrs O'Malley, whose matrimonial career began when she was 16 and who said she could not recall the names of all her past husbands, was given a final decree yesterday from husband number 13—a lorry driver.

She now plans to marry a car park supervisor—"the kindest man I have ever met,"—China Mail Special.

BRITAIN'S FORTUNES MAY BE AFFECTED

London, May 25.
 Sir Winston Churchill, who is contesting the Woodford constituency, said today: "The fortunes of Great Britain may well be affected by the decision which will be taken tomorrow."

"I am sure everyone will do his duty, that we may look forward to another spell of good progressive and peace-seeking government."

PARTY ROSETTE

Bareheaded, wearing a cigar and wearing the blue rosette of the Conservative Party, the 80-year-old leader, toured Woodford everywhere acclaimed by cheering crowds.

On his car radio he listened to a broadcast of Britain's classic horse race, the Derby, and when he heard the result he said "that was splendid—but we mustn't be diverted."

Sir Winston, who resigned the Premiership last month, is a veteran of 15 election campaigns.—Reuters.

SEARCH OF SUNKEN CITY

London, May 25.
 A group of underwater adventurers, including a girl photographer, will leave for Cyprus next Monday to explore the sunken city of Salamis, which was destroyed by an earthquake in 234 A.D.

"They intend to chart the city, once a major seaport of the Eastern Mediterranean, and perhaps find treasure in shipwrecks on the ocean bed."

But the adventurers will be mainly interested in botanical and biological research and in collecting enough evidence to support the theory that Cyprus was once joined to the mainland.

The expedition has been formed by seven members of the British Underwater Explorers Club, which was founded two years ago and now has 400 members.

It has the support of various museums and archaeological societies here—but no financial help from them. It will cost each explorer £200 to make the five-month trip.—China Mail Special.

Before Mr Ali returned to Karachi he made a categorical statement that both sides now had a "less rigid approach" to the problem.

BIG STEP

The agreement between both sides to ensure peace on the Kashmir border was a big step in creating a better atmosphere for the settlement of the dispute by means of a plebiscite, referendum or an election, informed sources said.

Mr Nehru's right hand man, Mr Govind Ballabh Pant, who holds the Home Affairs portfolio, will now be asked to deal with the Kashmir issue. He has successfully tackled certain vital Indo-Pakistani problems with Pakistan's Interior Minister, Mr Iskander Mirza.

Mr Pant is expected to visit Kashmir in June to discuss various problems with Mr Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad, Premier of the disputed state. He will gather first-hand information on the prevailing conditions in Kashmir.

Mr Pant is likely to accompany Mr Nehru to Karachi when the Indian leader goes there some time in July to resume talks with Mr Ali.

A reliable source said that during his Kashmir visit Mr Pant would also review the case of former Kashmir Premier Mr Sheikh Abdullah who is now in detention.

Certain quarters here have been pressing for Abdullah's release but Mr Bakshi was reported to be against it on the grounds that it would "create a chaotic condition" in Kashmir.—United Press.

No Surrender By Mau Mau Group

Nairobi, May 25.

Mr Michael Blundell, European Minister without portfolio, told the Kenya Legislative Council today that a small but powerful element among the Mau Mau, probably led by "Field Marshal" Dedan Kimathi were violently opposed to surrender.

Mr Blundell was making a statement on the failure of recent secret talks between Mau Mau leaders and Special Branch officers.

He said that "when Mau Mau leaders were brought under secret to Nairobi for the talks they asked for an arrangement to be made for an overall surrender. Then I agreed to the Government terms and to a token surrender on May 18."

REVERSED TERMS

But on May 13 the terrorists contracted the Special Branch officers and "reversed completely the terms" which had previously been agreed.

Mr Blundell said he did not know the reason for "such a sudden and violent change of opinion."

As a result of it, an ultimatum was given to the terrorists

which expired on May 20, when six battalions of police, tribal police and home guards went into action. Up to this afternoon 19 terrorists had been killed and two captured.

Mr Blundell said it became obvious in the most recent talks that Mau Mau leaders had conceded from their followers the full details of the talks and in particular their sudden reversal of the agreement to bring about large-scale surrenders.

As part of the operation now begun, sky shooting aircraft were being used and leaflets dropped in "an attempt to stimulate the numbers of individual surrenders from the rank and file."—Reuters.



Mr Clement Attlee, leader of the Labour Party, is pictured here waving a horseshoe given to him by a supporter for luck during a meeting.—Express Photo.

ANTI-POLIO VACCINE

Safety Standards Tightened

Washington, May 25.

The Government today tightened its safety standards for the Salk polio vaccine.

At the same time Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele announced creation of a special committee to review all lots of vaccine and recommend whether or not they should be cleared for use.

The committee, which will hold its first meeting tomorrow, will use the revised standards in passing on whether vaccine should be released for distribution.

Details on the standards were not announced immediately. Dr Scheele described them as additions and extensions of the standards the public health service set up previously.

The standards apply to production and testing of the Salk vaccine. The revisions were discussed with vaccine manufacturers and testing processes in order to provide a "proper safe vaccine."

He said creation of the new clearance committee constitutes the first step towards resumption of the stalled vaccination programme.

The Committee, he said, will review vaccine supplies a batch at a time. If the lots meet the new standards, it can recommend clearing them, he told reporters. If not, he said, manufacturers will be advised on what further steps are needed.

The final decision on releasing vaccine will still rest with Dr Scheele, he said.

Meanwhile, Rep. Arthur G. Klein asserted at a House Commerce Committee hearing that he had information from a reputable source that a "very prominent politician from California" brought pressure on the Health Secretary, Mrs Oveta Culp Hobby, regarding licensing of the Cutter laboratories to produce the vaccine. Assistant Health Secretary, Mr Roswell B. Perkins said "that is absolutely false."

It developed later that Rep. J. Vaughn Gary was the source referred to by Mr Klein. Mr Gary told a reporter he had heard the rumour from "several sources" and that Vice President Richard M. Nixon was the name of the Californian he had heard.

Mr Gary said he had no way of knowing whether the rumour had any foundation. In an effort to get the facts he suggested to several committee members, including Mr. Klein, that they make inquiries about it. Mr Gary said he had heard the report on a Drew Pearson broadcast and that he also had picked it up from other sources.—United Press.

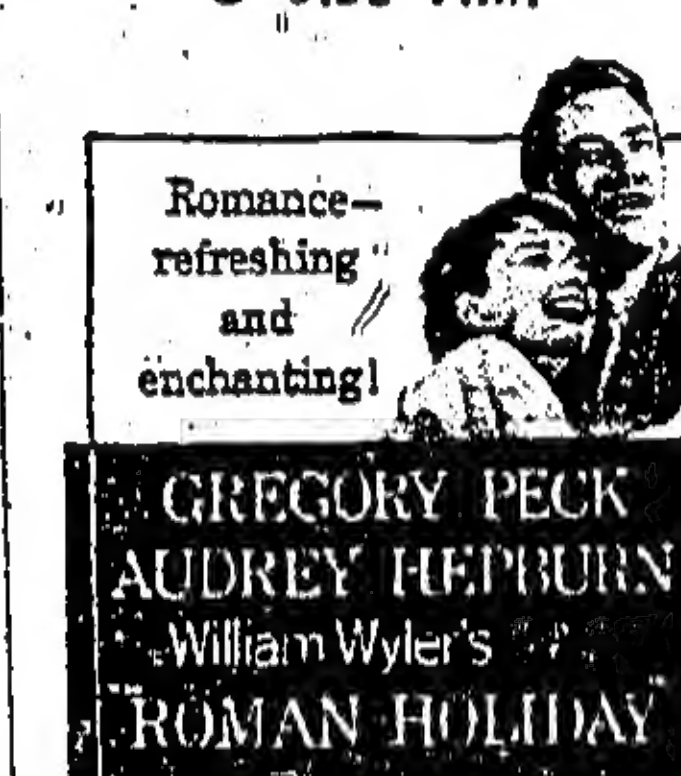
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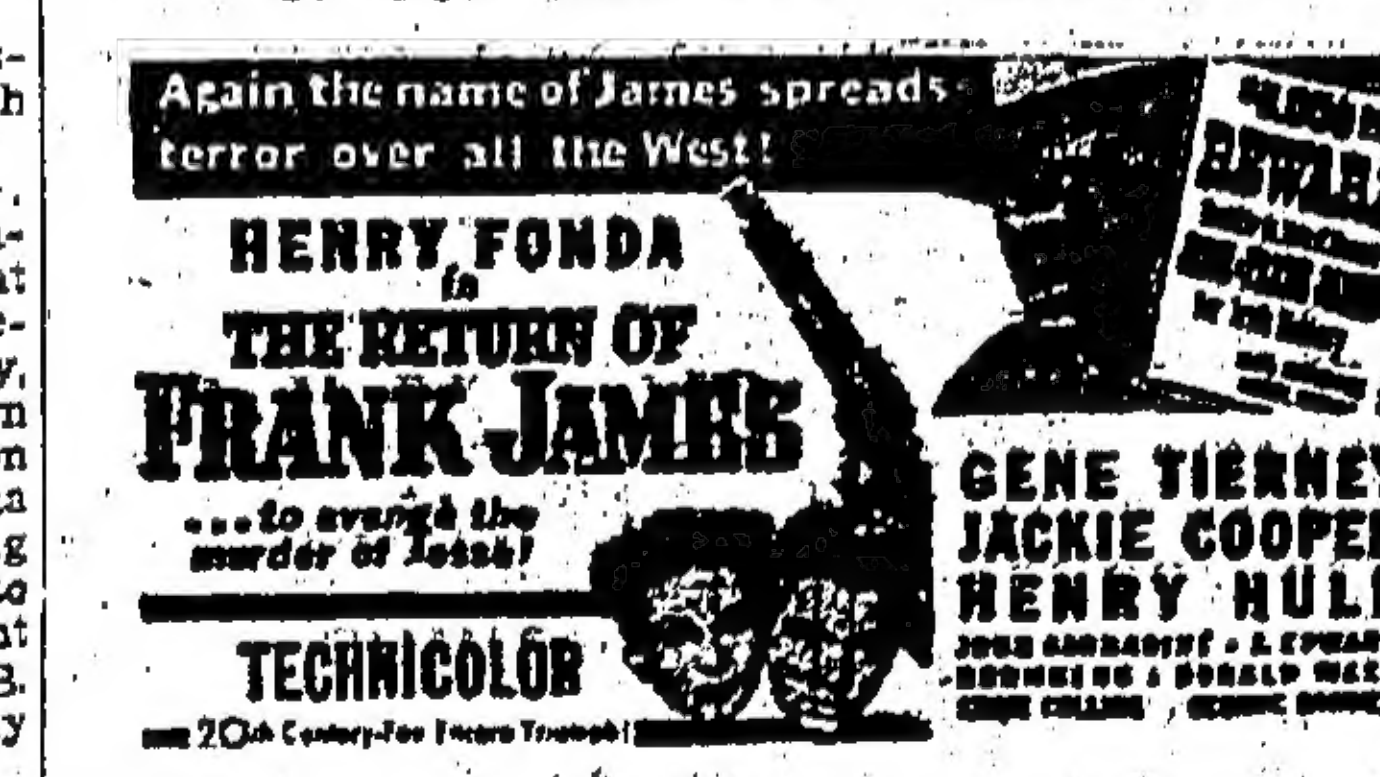


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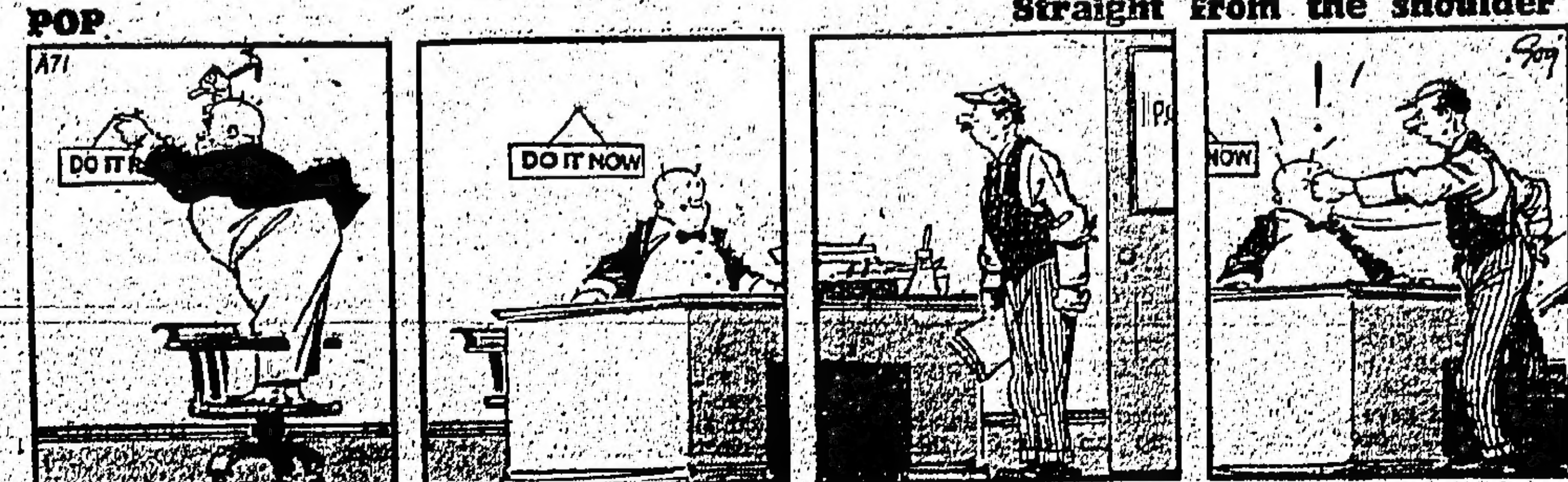
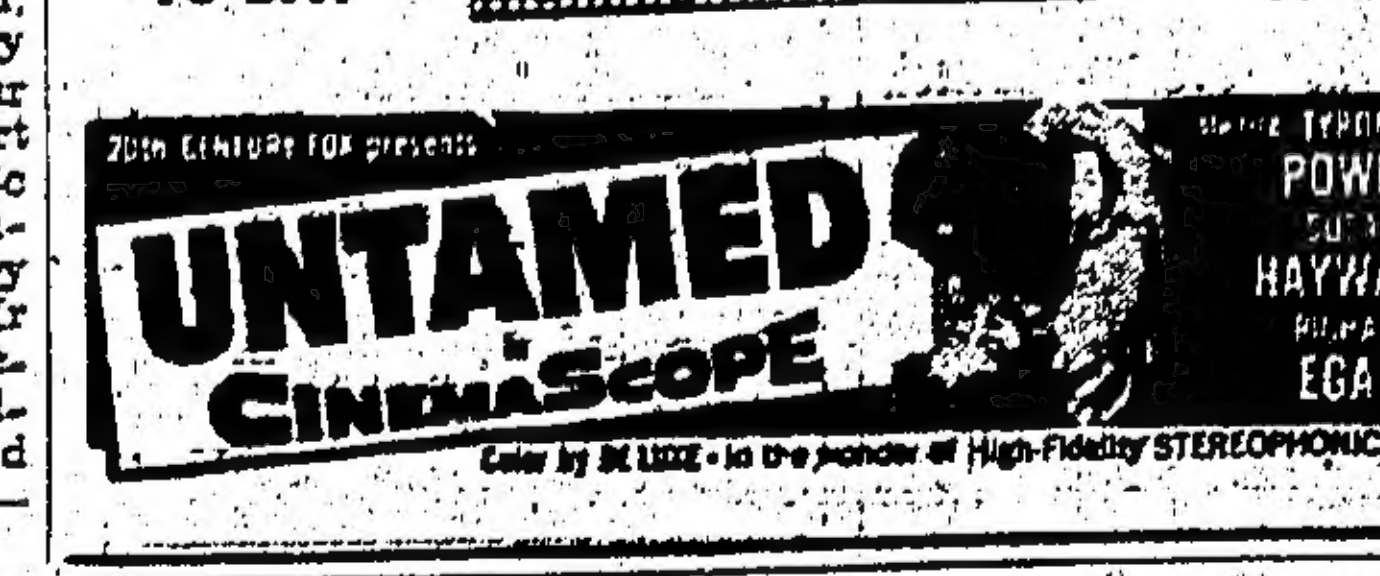
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Yugoslavia Expects Positive Results From Talks

IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS

Belgrade, May 26.

The Yugoslav Communist Party paper Borba said today that the forthcoming talks between Yugoslav and Soviet leaders in Belgrade "will give positive results both in regard to improvement of inter-state relations of the two countries and the strengthening of peace in the world."

Borba, quoted by the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug, said "the Yugoslav delegation led by President Tito expected 'manifest benefits' from the talks with the Kremlin leaders who include Marshal Nikolai Bulganin, the Premier, and Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, the Communist Party chief."

"The past two years which saw the gradual normalisation of relations between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union have pointed to the need for the examination and settlement by the two Governments of questions of previous inter-state relations as well as other outstanding questions."

POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

"Such agreed settlements would constitute a new positive contribution towards a further improvement of Yugoslav-Soviet relations. It would also provide for laying the foundations for equal co-operation, the only sure and sound basis on which relations between countries can rest."

"The realisation of positive results in the Soviet-Yugoslav talks would constitute a new stimulation and a new affirmation of tendencies and efforts for the regulation of conditions in the world for the further easing of tension for the strengthening of peace."

"The Belgrade talks constitute a confirmation of the principle in which Yugoslavia's activity in the international field is based—the principle of the policy of active co-existence."—Reuter.

France-Press adds that the man in the street considers the Soviet visit as something of a reprieve for the Communist break with Yugoslavia six years ago and as justification for years of hard work and difficult living. It is expected here that the Soviet Big Three will be received by the population in a cordial but dignified spirit—a contrast with the violent Soviet fervour of 1945 and the bitter hostility to the Soviet Union that marked the years between 1949 and 1954.

The Soviet delegation will be housed on its arrival tomorrow at the Stari Dvor Palace, a white-walled red-roofed villa on the wooded slopes of Desajin, outside Belgrade.

EXCHANGE OF TURTLES

New York, May 25. An international exchange of turtles took place at the Bronx Zoo today.

The zoo's expanding turtle collection was augmented by Ko-ko and Yum-yum, the first native Japanese turtles to appear in the reptile house. Gifts from the Ueno Zoo in Tokyo, the turtles were presented to Dr. James Oliver, Curator of reptiles, by Miss Kokuko Sasaki and Miss Fumiko Shiba, Japan Air Lines stewardesses, who shepherded the cargo from zoo to zoo.

Dr. Oliver presented two American box turtles to the young women to take back to Ueno Zoo.—China Mail Special.

Minister Attacks Servicemen's Morals

Atlantic City, May 25.

THE morals of American Servicemen and women serving overseas came under attack yesterday at the closing session of the American Baptist Convention meeting.

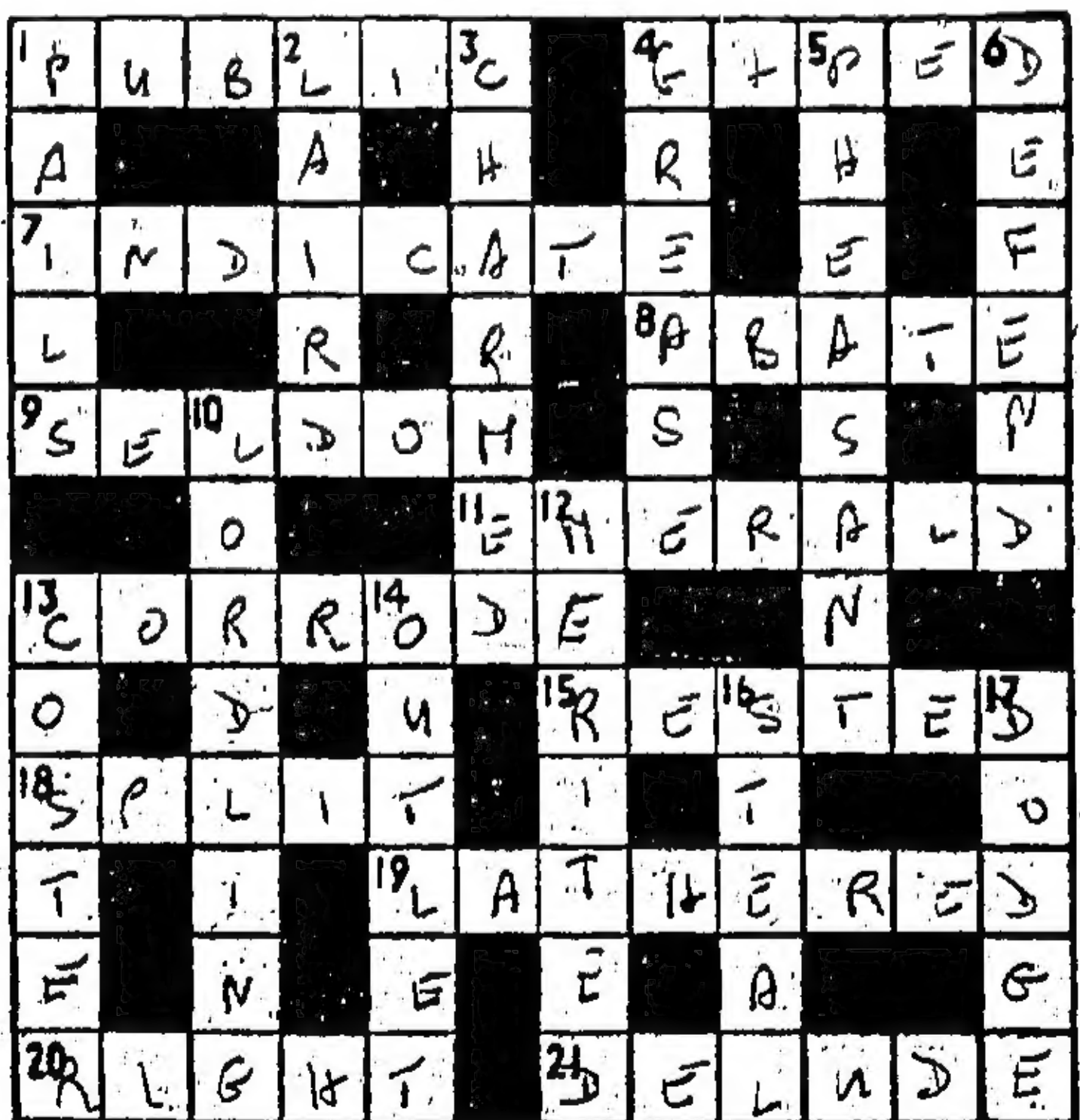
The Rev. Joseph Hartberg of New York, Secretary of the Department of Christian Ministry to Service Personnel, urged Ministers to write letters to American Servicemen and women overseas to combat "shacking up," rapes, suicides and other evils in bases abroad.

"The personnel are invited to gamble and drink," he said. "There is endless conversation about illicit, sexual relationships and experiences. Powerful civil forces tend to line their own pockets at the Servicemen's expense, crowded military installations ready to sell divas, dolls and drugs."

Mr. Hartberg said a new civilian community has arisen at Misawa, Japan, where there is an American air base.

"Since all in Japan must register their occupations with the Police, we know that in a population of 5,000, there are 1,200 registered prostitutes. This does not include those who are registered as 'only'—supported by only one man. Shacking up, as it is called, is accepted practice."—United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
1 Not private (6).
4 Yawned (5).
7 Point out (5).
8 Diminish (5).
9 Not often (6).
11 Precious stone (7).
13 Wear away (7).
15 Reposed (6).
18 Fissure (5).
19 Soused (6).
20 Correct (6).
21 Deceive (6).
DOWN
1 Buckets (5).
2 Scottish landowner (5).
3 Fascinated (7).
4 Lubricate (6).
5 Game bird (6).
6 Protect (6).
10 Minor nobleman (8).
12 Deserved (7).
13 Street trader (6).
14 Vent (6).
16 Puritan (5).
17 Trick (5).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Fret, 4 Adult, 8 Rare, 9 Alma, 10 October, 11 Muse, 12 Pump, 14 Enticed, 17 Animate, 19 Haven, 20 Tenant, 22 Lead, 23 Real, 24 Indel, 29 Iris, 30 Else, 31 Diverts, 32 Suet. Down: 2 Random, 3 Tramps, 4 Arise, 5 Decent, 6 Loose, 7 Theme, 12 Part, 13 Mien, 15 Rave, 16 Dent, 18 Street, 20 Allies, 21 Engine, 23 Ennui, 24 Agile, 25 Self.



Pictured here are leading members of Britain's Conservative Government in a BBC television studio. They were taking part in a pre-election debate. Before the programme they held a press conference at which a number of leading London National and Provincial newspaper editors fired questions at the Ministers. They are (left to right) Mr. Iain MacLeod, Mr. R. A. Butler, Sir Anthony Eden, Mr. Harold Macmillan and Sir Walter Monckton.—Express Photo.

Alleged Pakistan Blockade Of Afghanistan

Karachi, May 25.

The Afghanistan Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Sardar Mohammed Rafiq, said today he had advised his Government to stop shipping Afghan goods through Pakistan because of the trade blockade on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border.

He told the United Press that he had lodged a protest with the Pakistan Government against the alleged blockade by Pakistan of the transit of gasoline and industrial equipment consigned to Afghanistan.

Mr. Rafiq said that there were 60,000 gallons of petrol, 20,000 boxes of textile goods and quantities of hydro-electric equipment held by the blockade at points on the Afghan border.

PERMISSION REFUSED

A further consignment of goods for Afghanistan was being held up at the port of Karachi and the Pakistan Government had refused permission for the Bank of Afghanistan to take delivery of these goods for storage, Mr. Rafiq said.

Not only was the Afghanistan border sealed against the transit of Afghan goods but the Pakistan Government was refusing to allow Afghan representatives to store their goods in Pakistan, he said.

Mr. Rafiq said that he had proposed that the Pakistan Government itself should undertake the storage of blocked goods to prevent damage and wastage. In the meantime, he said, he had advised his Government to issue instructions to foreign suppliers of goods to Afghanistan to halt all shipments through Pakistan.

Mr. Rafiq said that this would affect American aid shipments to Afghanistan as well as supplies to the American engineering company building roads in southern Afghanistan.—United Press.

French Delegation Arrives Peking

Tokyo, May 25.

A French medical delegation arrived in Peking today, the New China News Agency reported tonight.

The delegation is headed by Professor J. Duvigneau, famous heart specialist, Madame Duvigneau, and Professor Dullhem, gynecologist. They have been invited to visit China by the Chinese Medical Association, whose leading members were at the airport to greet them.—France-Press.

Not An American 'Tramp'

London, May 25. If a man in Britain calls a woman a tramp it does not mean, as is often the case in America, that she is loose and immoral.

This ruling was handed down by a judge in the High Court here yesterday when he dismissed an action for slander brought by Mrs. Stella Fields, a 51-year-old London dentist's wife, against a company director, Mr. Alex. Davis.

Mrs. Fields contended that the word tramp meant that she had been guilty of unchastity and adultery. Mr. Davis denied the allegation. Giving judgment, Mr. Justice Glade said that no reasonable person could have given the word tramp the meaning alleged by Mrs. Fields. "The word could not have been used in the ordinary sense because it would be preposterous to suggest that Mrs. Fields was a vagabond," the judge added. "Yet I have the gravest possible doubt that the word in the circumstances of the case bore the alleged meaning."

Tory Leaders Use TV As Weapon

SOUTH AFRICAN DEBATE OPPOSITION HITS AT GOVERNMENT

Capetown, May 25.

The South African Minister of Justice, Mr. Charles Swart, told the House of Assembly today that the Nationalist Government believed it was in power "by will of God."

He said "the Government does not believe it is in power by chance."

Mr. Swart was speaking during the third day of the debate on the Government's Senate bill which almost doubles the number of members of the Upper House and would provide enough votes to allow the Government to overcome its constitutional difficulties in removing the coloureds (people of mixed blood) from the common voters roll.

ONE-PARTY STATE

Opposition speakers have alleged that the measure would lead to a one-party state in South Africa. The Government claims that it is necessary to carry out "the mandate it received from the people"—to remove the coloureds from the roll and to make Parliament "sovereign."

Mr. Harry Lawrence, a leading member of the Opposition United Party, interrupted Mr. Swart to ask "is it your belief that because of divine guidance everything the Government does must be right?"

The Minister replied: "Certainly not." Mr. Swart challenged a statement by an Opposition member, Mr. Sydney Waterson, yesterday that many English-speaking South Africans might not want to fight for the country in the future.

"I believe there are more than enough English-speaking people in this country who are as good South Africans as we are, and who will stand by the Government in the event of war," Mr. Swart said.

Another Opposition speaker interjected "you never stood with us." Mr. Swart said he hoped the Opposition would dissociate themselves from Mr. Waterson's speech because it was "impossible to live in South Africa in such an atmosphere, as I had created."

INCITING PEOPLE

He also accused the United Party of "inciting" the people over the bill. He claimed, there had been a number of inflammatory speeches and proposals and said the Government would not hesitate to take action to maintain law and order in the country. Mr. Henry Lawrence in a speech accused Government speakers of trying to justify the bill on the grounds of divine guidance when it was "a piece of political chicanery."

He told the House "in the nostrils of decent people the bill stinks to high heaven." "The House must realise we are up against two different ways of life in this country—the way of the brigand, the bully and the jackboot and the way of decency." The debate will continue tomorrow.

ISRAEL'S RELATIONS WITH WEST

Tel-Aviv, May 25.

A special Government meeting was held here today to discuss Israel's relations with the Western Big Three and security problems along Israel's Arab borders.

Israeli Premier and Foreign Minister Mr. Moshe Sharett, Defence Minister David Ben-Gurion, and Chief of Staff General Moshe Dayan heard reports from three Israeli ambassadors, recalled to Tel-Aviv last week for urgent consultations.—Mr. Aba Eban from Washington, Mr. Elyahu Eilat from London, and Mr. Jacob Tsur from Paris.

These three ambassadors were scheduled after today's meeting to draft a report on the Western attitude toward the Middle Eastern situation, to be delivered tomorrow to the Israeli Parliament's Foreign Policy and Security Committee.—France-Press.

NEWSPAPER STOPPAGE IN PARIS

Paris, May 25.

Last-minute efforts to avert a 24-hour printers' strike which will leave most of France without newspapers, failed tonight. Printers did not report for work this evening on the newspapers.

This newspaper stoppage is one of a series of 24-hour strikes called by the French trade unions, aimed to affect bus services, newspaper productions and to hold up shipping.

Many Paris buses stayed in their garages today. Only about two out of every three usually in service were running normally in the middle of the morning, according to a spokesman of the Paris Transport Corporation.

COMMUNIST-LED

The 24-hour strike was called by the Communist-led General Labour Confederation in support of a claim for higher wages. The Socialists and Independent unions shunned the stoppage.

In the newspaper strike the last edition of the mass circulation evening newspaper, France Soir, usually sent by train from Paris to the provinces for distribution next morning, was not printed.

PROTEST

The printers' union called the strike in protest against tomorrow's debate in the National Assembly on a bill which would allow production of newspapers by non-union labour. At present only union labour may be employed.

Paris newspaper publishers issued a communique apologising to their readers for missing an edition and promising to be back on Friday morning.

The strike also asked printers to withhold labour in such a way as to ensure that no newspapers appeared on Thursday.—Reuter.

Girls Under 18 Banned From Beauty Contests

Rome, May 25.

Girls of under 18 will not be allowed to take part in any future beauty contests in Italy, the Under-Secretary of the Interior, Signor Borsari, told a questioner in Parliament today.

He said that there are "inconveniences of a moral order arising from these contests. Signor Borsari added that the police also have instructions to prohibit the use of two-piece costumes in any future beauty show, stating that the "law of public security" confers upon the police such "discretionary powers."—France-Press.

Granted Asylum

Berlin, May 25.

A Canadian soldier, Ralph Bernard Cross, asked and was granted political asylum in East Germany on May 11, the East German ADN news agency reported today.

Cross declared that he went over to the Communists to live in "liberty and peace," the ADN said. He had served in the Canadian army from 1953 to 1955.—France-Press.

Another 'No' To Russian Scientists

Colombo, May 25.

The Ceylon Premier, Sir John Kotelawala, has refused a request that a 60-man team of Soviet scientists be allowed to come here to observe the solar eclipse, it was learned today.

In a letter to the Ceylon Association for the Advancement of Science, which made the request, Sir John stated that, while the advancement of science was their business, the security of Ceylon was his.

In reply to the Premier, the Society declared that they had not known security questions were involved and had no idea that Russia wanted to send as many as 60 observers. Other observation teams from abroad were slated to be much smaller—for example, eleven from the US and a maximum of nine from Britain.—France-Press.

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★ DON IDDON'S DIARY IN CANADA

MONTREAL'S NIGHT LIFE HAS NOWHERE TO GO

I FIND Montreal, which occasionally calls itself the Paris of the New World, controversial. There is a row about alleged stock swindles on the innocent Americans; argument about a so-called political scandal in the capital, Ottawa, and a debate about the cabarets' closing hours.

Some Montreal people whom I've met are most angry about the night club curfew.

My guide, one of Montreal's best journalists, Monsieur Jules Larochelle, said: "How can we call this another Paris if the mayor is going to shut down cabarets at two o'clock in the morning?"

Having recently been in Las Vegas, where bars and clubs never close, I would welcome any curfew, even at tea-time; but Montreal, the metropolis, has big

city ideas and also it needs American tourists.

The new mayor, Mr. Jean Drapeau, elected on a reform ticket, says the way to drive out the gangsters, who have been blackening Montreal's name, is to clamp down on night life.

The day I arrived a brick was thrown through a window of the mayor's house at four o'clock in the morning. It was ugly vandalism.

After the crooks

MR Drapeau, immediately issued a statement which I thought rather restrained. "This is not a prank but definitely a crime."

Later the mayor alleged that underworld elements were after him and revealed that he had received threatening letters.

The Night Club Owners' Association which must be a strange sort of trade union, countered with a statement of their own. They "disassociated" themselves from the brick-throwing incident and added: "We cannot believe that a group of business men like ours, which provides work for 5,000 citizens of Montreal, could possibly resort to terrorism."

This was an interesting start to my Canadian visit, which is going to last a few days; and the interest has been maintained. The mayor is pursuing the crooks with a reformer's zeal, and anyone who knows Montreal knows that a laundering was overdue.

The stock swindling is also on the mayor's list. For months now a small group of racketeers operating out of Montreal and other towns here have been milking gullible Americans,

persuading them to buy worthless shares in uranium mines, goldfields, and copper corporations.

The crusading and publicity-loving Senator, Alexander Willey, is now blaming Canadian stock swindlers for "damaging human hopes and lives," and also, going tens of thousands of dollars from the unfortunate Americans.

The Province of Quebec, following Ontario's example, is going to shut down the bucket shops and save the Americans from their folly. Honest brokers, who outnumber the dishonest ones, hundreds to one, are demanding action to protect their own business.

The alleged political "scandal" does not strike me as being very serious. In the United States it would not cause a flutter; but Canada must be the incorruptible (modeling itself on Britain) and its Ministers above suspicion.

Raised a storm

ANYWAY, the Minister of National Revenue, Dr. J. J. McCann, is being charged with making political use of information that came to him in his position. He is also being attacked for not resigning his directorships and cutting himself off from his business interests when he took office.

The St. Laurent Administration has been damaged by the McCann hullabaloo, but is so strong that it will easily surmount the storm.

I find Montreal looking sleek and prosperous despite the arguments, but it badly needs a new gateway into the city.

I drove here from New York, about 400 miles, and had to negotiate an extraordinary archaic and narrow bridge across the St. Lawrence and then plunge into some octacombes before emerging in Montreal itself.

The city planners, who are busily scrapping ancient shabby tramcars, should build a new

bridge to dress up their town. I hope they will not resent this mild criticism.

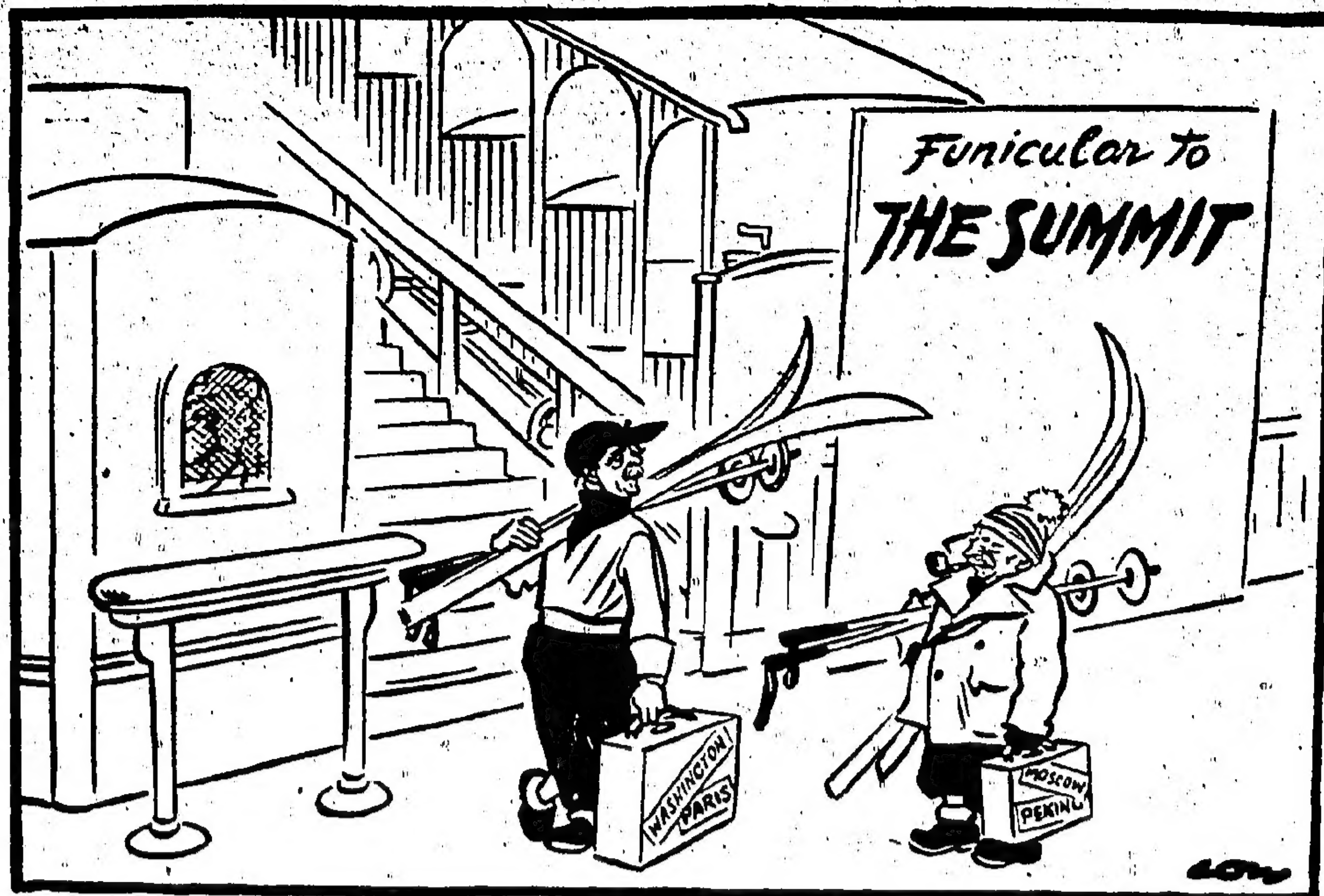
Polio campaign

CANADIANS are particularly proud of the fact that, although half a million of their children have been inoculated with the Salk anti-polio vaccine, there has not been a single case of unfavourable reaction.

At the moment the English, or at least one prominent Englishman, H. R. Trevor-Roper, the historian, are not too popular in Quebec Province.

Mr Trevor-Roper is being damned for dismissing French Canada as a residual and dying civilisation and also for getting his facts and figures wrong.

I will not go into details as they are too involved; but I must have visited French Canada 30 times during the past few years and one thing I can tell you—it is not dying. It is very much alive.



BOTH: AND WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

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★ I was dazzled by the company

★ Rich people, too, have their problems

THE DINNER PARTY

by NICHOLAS MONSARRAT



Less than four years ago NICHOLAS MONSARRAT rocketed to renown and riches with *The Cruel Sea*—the nautical novel based on his wartime exploits which has netted a fabulous £200,000. This story has a very different setting—a boyhood holiday in France.

Since Winchester and Cambridge, the versatile son of the Liverpool surgeon has gone far in many directions.

Before the war broadcast journalism absorbed him, but in 1946 he was appointed Director of the UK Information Office in Johannesburg, where he met his second wife. In 1947 he took up similar work in Ottawa and in the same year his tenth novel—*The Story of Ester Costello*—successfully left the stocks.



DRAWING BY KOOLMAN

She looked round us with a pleasant smile. Then she said: "Before we leave you, may I have my ring back?"

DID IT HAPPEN?

Please be assured that many of them lead lives of particular pleasure; commanding the finest artists to play and sing exactly what they wish to hear, greeting Royalty on terms of pleasure and intimacy, and eating and drinking precisely by what they want—often *pate de foie gras*, trout in aspic, and champagne.

Behaviour

But rich people do have their problems. They are seldom problems of finance, since most rich people have sufficient sense to hire other people to take care of their worries—whether they are concerned with taxes, politics, the education of their children, the estrangement of their wives, or the greed of their servants.

But there are other, more genuine problems. They are the problems of behaviour.

Let me tell you one such a problem, which beset my uncle Octavian a full 30 years ago.

A full 30 years ago, I myself was 15. That is not really important, though it was important to me at the time, on the threshold of the dazzling adult world. More important to this story, my uncle Octavian was then (in 1925) a rich man in the lavish pride of manhood.

He was (as any suitable contemporary will confirm) a charming and accomplished host whose villa on the Cote d'Azur was an accepted rendezvous of the great; and he was (as I will confirm) a hospitable, contented, and most amiable man—until January 8, 1925.

There was nothing special about that day, in the life of my uncle Octavian, except that it was his fifty-fifth birthday. As usual on such

a day, he was giving a dinner party, a party for twelve people. All of them were old friends; two of them, indeed, were what were then called, unambiguously, "old flames." (My uncle, aged fifty-five, would scarcely have found it possible to give a birthday dinner party not attended by at least two such guests. He had long been addicted to what was then called, with equal unambiguity, a "full life.")

I, myself, aged 15, was deeply privileged. I was staying with my uncle at his exquisite villa near Cap d'Antibes; and as a special concession on this happy day, I was allowed to come down to dinner. It was exciting to me to be admitted to such company, which included, besides the two "old flames," a and their respective husbands, a newspaper proprietor of exceptional intelligence, and his fabulous American

wife; a recent prime minister of France and a monumental elder statesman of postwar Germany; and a Hapsburg prince and princess.

At that age, on holiday from school, you will guess that I was dazzled. Even today, 30 years later, one may fairly admit that the company was distinguished. But I should also stress, to give point to this story, that they were all old and intimate friends of my uncle Octavian.

Towards the end of a wonderful dinner, when dessert had been brought in and the servants had left, my uncle leant forward to

admire a magnificent solitaire diamond ring on the princess's hand. She was a

handsome woman, of regal bearing; I remember the candle light flashing on, and within, the canary-yellow stone, as she turned her hand gracefully towards my uncle.

Across the table, the newspaper proprietor leant across, and said:

"May I also have a look, Therese?"

She smiled, and nodded. Then she took off the ring and held it out to him. "It was my grandmother's—the old empress," she said. "I have not worn it for many years. It is said to have once belonged to Genghis Khan."

There were exclamations of delight and admiration. The ring was passed from hand to hand. For a moment it rested on my own palm, gleaming splendidly with that wonderful, interior yellow glow that such jewels can command. Then I passed it to my next-door neighbour. As I turned away again, I thought I saw her pass it on. At least, I was almost sure I saw her.

It was some 20 minutes later when the princess stood up, giving the signal for the ladies to withdraw. She looked round us with a pleasant smile. Then she said: "Before we leave you, may I have my ring back?"

I remember my uncle Octavian murmuring: "Ah yes—that wonderful ring!" I remember the newspaper proprietor saying: "By jove! Mustn't forget that!" and one of the women laughing.

Then there was a pause, while each of us looked expectantly at his neighbour. Then there was silence.

The princess was still smiling, though less easily. She was unused to asking for things twice. "If you please," she said,

with a touch of hauteur. "Then we can leave the gentlemen to their port."

When no one answered her, and the silence continued, I still thought that it could only be a practical joke, and that one of us—probably the prince himself—would produce the ring with a laugh and a flourish, perhaps chiding her for her carelessness. But when nothing happened at all, I knew that the rest of that night would be dreadful.

I am sure that you can guess the sort of scene that followed. There was the embarrassment, immediate and shattering, of the guests—all of them old and valued friends. There was the freezing politeness of the prince, the near-tears of the princess. There were the demands to be searched, the overturning of chairs, the minute scrutiny of the dinner table, the napkins, the carpet, and then of the whole room. There was the fact that presently no one would meet anyone else's eye.

All these things happened, but they did not bring the princess's ring back again. It had vanished—an irreplaceable heirloom, worth possibly £200,000—in a roomful of 12 people, all known to each other.

No servants had entered the room. No one had left it for a moment. The thief (for now it could only be theft) was one of us, one of my uncle Octavian's cherished friends.

I remember it was the French cabinet minister who was most insistent on being searched. Indeed, in his excitement he had already started turning out his pockets, before my uncle held up his hand and stopped him.

Uncle Octavian's face was pale and tremendously tense, as if he had been dealt a mortal blow. "There will be no searching," he commanded. "Not in my house. You are all my friends. The ring can only be lost. If it is not found—," he bowed towards the princess, "I will, 'naturally,' make amends myself."

The dreadful and fruitless search began again. The ring was never found, though the guests stayed nearly till dawn—unwilling to be the first to leave, wishing to comfort my uncle (who though deeply calm was deeply stricken), and still hoping that, from the shambles of the dining-room, the ring would somehow appear.

It never did appear, either then or later. My uncle Octavian, to the last, remained true to his rigid code, and adamant that no one was to be searched.

Sad Man

I myself went back to England, as school, a few days later. I was very glad to escape. The sight of my uncle's face, and the knowledge of his overturned world; were more than I could bear. All that he was left with, among the ruins of his way of life, was a question mark which of his intimate friends was the thief?

I do not know how, or on what scale my uncle Octavian "made amends." I know that he never returned to his lovely house near Cap d'Antibes, and that he remained a recluse for the rest of his days. I know that, to our family's surprise he was a comparatively poor man when he died. He died, in fact, a few weeks ago, and that is why I feel I can tell the story.

It would be wrong to say that he died a broken man, but he did die a profoundly sad one, with the special sadness of a hospitable host who never gave a single lunch, or dinner, party for the last 20 years of his life.

WORLD COPYRIGHT RESERVED

DID IT REALLY HAPPEN?

YES NO

Put your tick in the space above and keep this page by you until tomorrow. When the answer has been given, send it to the editor by post.

BERNARD TICKELL

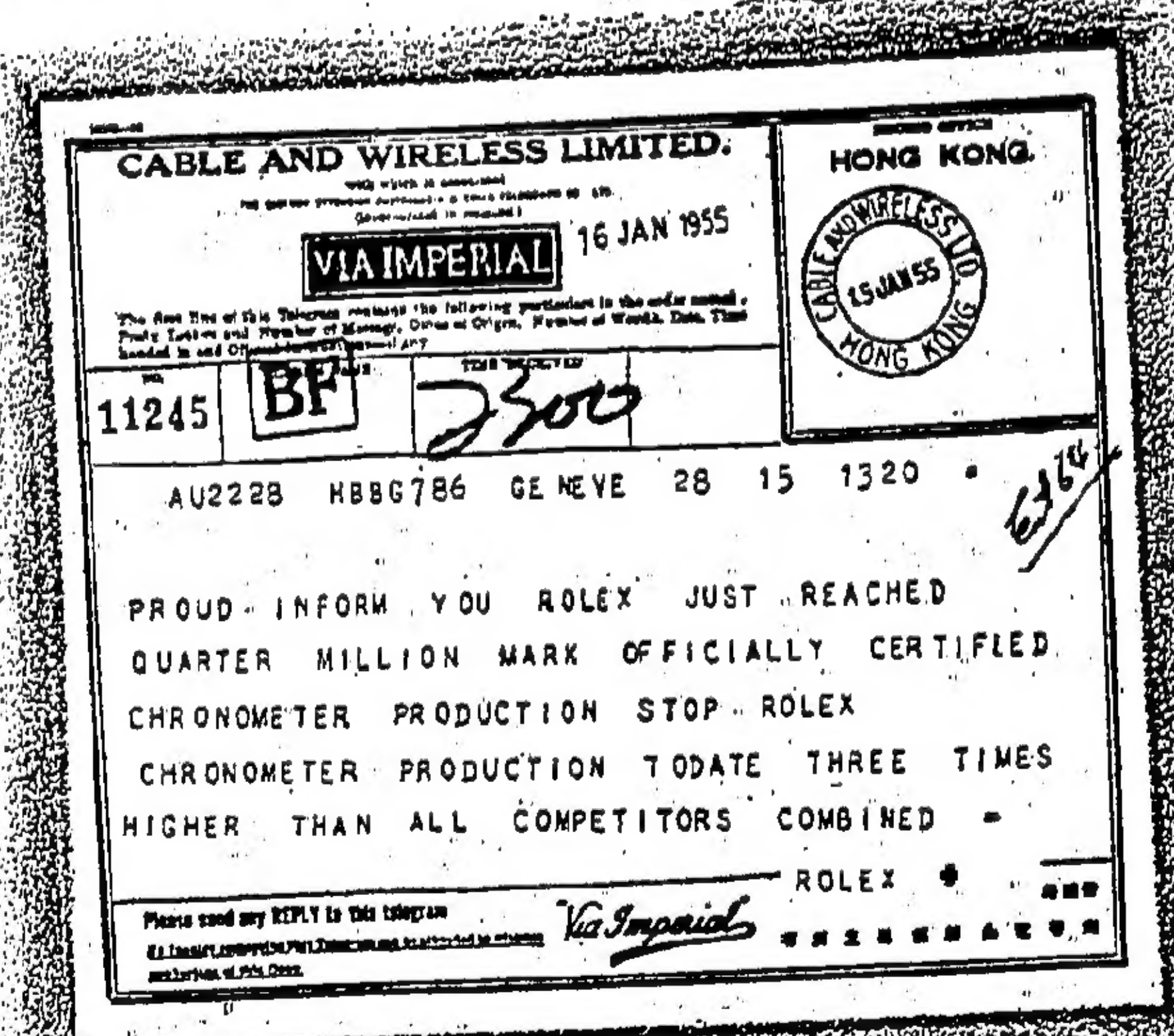
Did yesterday's story—a question of luck by Michael Farwell—actually happen? The answer is NO.

PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Copies of photographs taken by the South China Morning Post, South China Sunday Post-Herald, and China Mail Staff Photographers are on view in the Morning Post Building.

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DEATHS

SEDICK—Mrs. Aysa Hagan Sedick
passed away peacefully at St.
Paul's Hospital this morning,
May 25, 1955. Funeral will take
place at the Methodist cemetery
at 5.30 p.m. today.

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plumages are clearly and
concisely described, and
a short account is given
of field characters,
voice, habits, status,
etc. The illustrations,
except for three plates
of photographs, are all
by Cdr. A. M. Hughes,
and include four attrac-
tive plates of the heads
of 42 species and many
useful drawings in the
text. The writer of this
reviewer would have
benefited greatly from
this book when station-
ed in Hong Kong some
years ago. Even now,
on referring to it, some
40 unfamiliar species
on which notes were
made at the time have
almost all proved easily
identifiable. — D. W. S.

(Extract from "The Bird" official
organ of the British Ornithologists'
Union, British Museum).

S. C. M. POST
HONG KONG KOWLOON

Summer Theatres Bring 'Bit Of Broadway' To Every Corner Of America

New York, May 25.
As Broadway's theatres
begin slipping into their hot
weather siesta, playwrights
and players are ready to
begin their annual switch
from glamour in the big
town to paycheques in the
small ones.

Starting next month, they
will start showing up in the
scores of summer theatres
blossoming in the spring
countryside from coast to
coast. Openings are sched-
uled as early as June 1 and
most will run through the
month of August.

Spotted in nearly every
state in the Union, as the
accompanying map shows,
there will be about 80 loca-
tions playing straight
dramas and about 50 playing
musicals.

PACKAGE SHOWS

One of the notable fea-
tures of this year's pro-
gramme is the growth of
the "package shows" headed
by famous performers and
offering a single drama or
musical. They will tour from
one summer theatre to an-
other, replacing for a week
or two the resident com-
panies in each place.

Promoters will be eyeing
the summer receipts to see
whether this will be the
season this assembly line
"packages" take over com-
pletely from the old-fashion-
ed summer theatre where a
single company produces a
wide variety of shows during
its vacation stand at one
location. Summer theatre
producers readily admit that
rising costs of production
are making it more and
more difficult to present a
series of individual shows as
though each were a Broad-
way premiere.

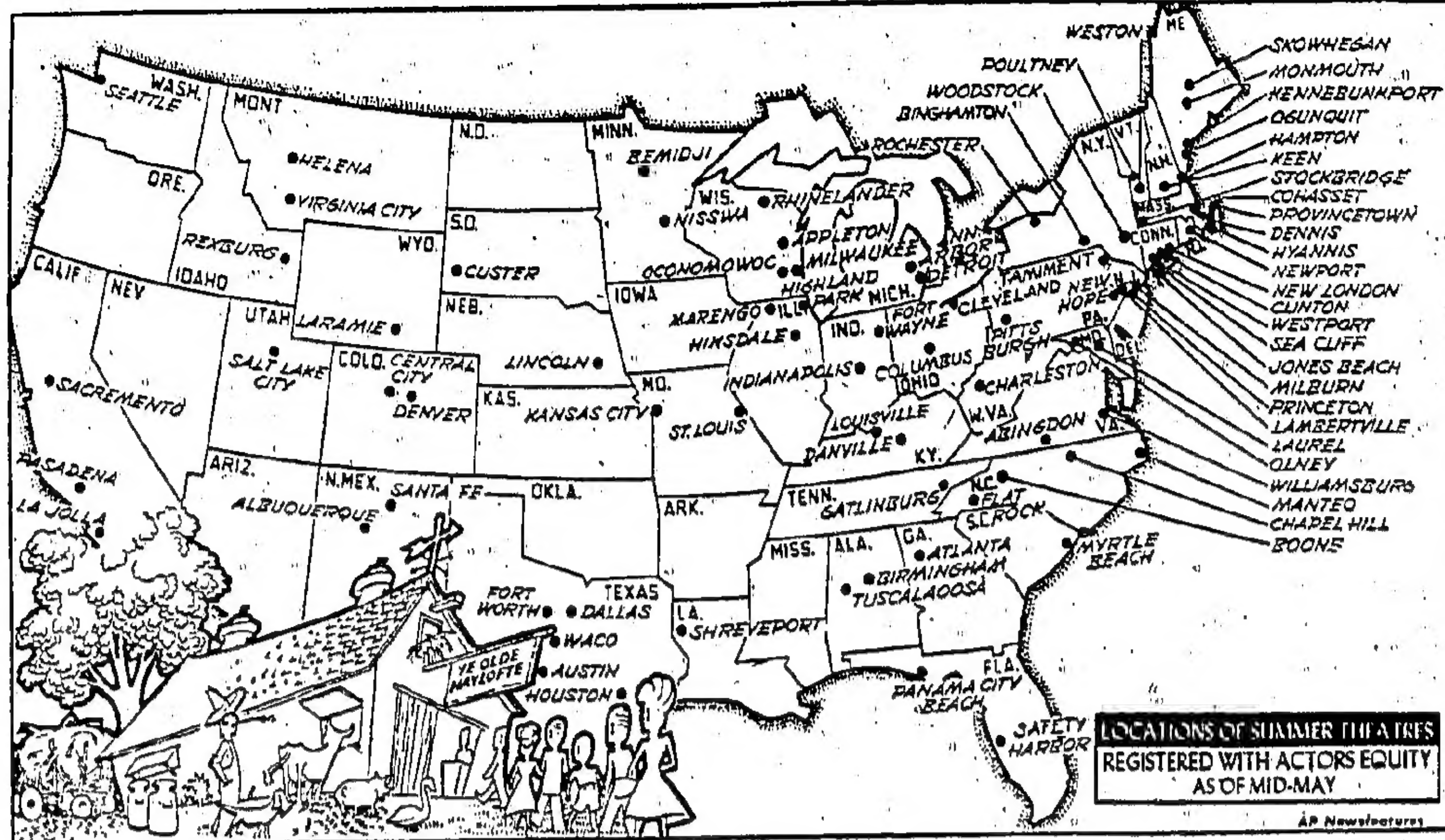
Even though the number
of "summer theatres plan-
ning programme this season
is large, a number of old
ones have put up the "for
rent" sign. One reason is
another trend apparent in
summer stock—the decline
of the traditional small
playhouse. Outdoor theatres
in stadia and large tent
theatres can accommodate
much larger audiences than
the picturesque but tiny
barn. Therefore the former
can present shows for a
much smaller admission
charge than a theatre which
seats only 300 or so per-
sons.

WIDEST SELECTION

As usual, New England,
the Middle Atlantic states
and the Midwest are offering
the widest selection of sum-
mer theatre fare. One ex-
planation of this geographic
concentration is that show
people don't like to spend
their vacations too far from
Broadway—they want to
keep in economical long dis-
tance telephone range of
their agents, and they want
to be able to return quickly
for occasional radio or TV
appearances. States benefit-
ing most from this are
Massachusetts, Connecticut
and New Jersey.

Programmes scheduled
this summer range from
such events as Helen Hayes'
appearance in a repertoire
of her past Broadway hits in a
drama festival at Ann
Arbor, Mich., to shows in
South Dakota, Idaho and
Texas where college
students are volunteering to
support established profes-
sional players.

Among the highlights in
Northeast billings are the
12-week season at the
famous lakeside playhouse
at Skowhegan, Me., the
11-week Gilbert and Sullivan
Festival at Monmouth, Me.,
and the 13-week season
producers Philip Langner
and Windsor Lewis have
planned at the famous
Country Playhouse in West-
port, Conn.



The mixture of programmes in
summer theatre is exemplified
in the Central City Opera House
in Colorado. On a stage high
in the Rocky Mountains, this
noted summer theatre will raise
the curtains in July to present
the D'Oyly Carte Opera Co. of
London in four Gilbert and Sullivan
operas. Following this, the
past, the Central City resi-
dent company will perform four
modern plays through August.

Elitch Gardens in Denver be-
gins its 64th season as a sum-
mer theatre in late June. The
plan is to extend this summer
programme into a year-long
season with touring companies
playing Broadway hits, filling in
at times between performances
of the resident company.

An example of how small
towns can make a success of a
summer theatre is the Salt
Creek Theatre in Hinsdale, Ill.,
which begins a 14-week season
on June 6. Hinsdale has a popu-
lation of only 1,330 yet in
past summers the theatre there
has presented such stars as
Judith Anderson, Ebel Waters
and Charles Coburn. The secret
of its success is that it presents
only top stars in proven pro-
ductions—and is only 25 miles
from Chicago's loop.

Manteo, N.C., will again pre-
sent, from July 1 to September
14, the historic "Lost Colony",
a dramatic spectacle which re-
quires 90 actors. A similar sum-
mer attraction is the outdoor
drama about Seminole Indians
in Safety Harbor, Fla.

In Virginia, Director Robert
Porterfield's noted Barrier
Theatre at Abingdon begins a
13-week season in June. This is
the playhouse where the guest
Broadway stars receive, as part
salary, Virginia ham and an
acre of Virginia land.

In several places summer
theatres are being operated by
university drama groups, such
as the drama festival at the
University of Utah where pro-
fessional stars are supported by
student actors. This is particu-
larly widespread in Texas,
where the University of Texas,
Southern Methodist University,
Texas Christian University, Bay-
lor University, and the Univer-
sity of Houston operate footlight
programmes.

On the West Coast the
Aquashow in Seattle alternates
water shows four nights a week
with three nights of such stage
musicals as "Annie Get Your
Gun". Professional stars take
leading roles, but Seattle re-
sidents compose most of the
casts.

In California actress Dorothy
McGuire and several other
Broadway stars who are now
confined by Hollywood film
contracts will give stage per-
formances at La Jolla a small
theatre near San Diego. In
Pasadena veteran producer Gil-
more Brown will continue to
stage theatrical spectacles with
stars and beginners. In
Sacramento the music Circus
opens in June.

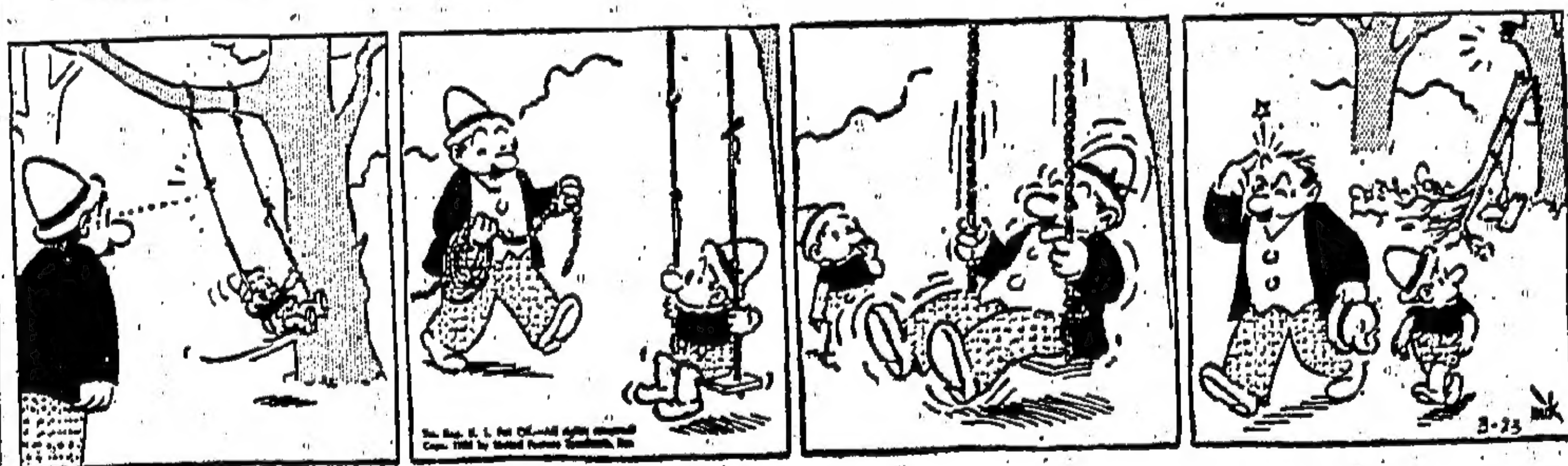
By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN



By Mik

FERD'NAND



By Ernie Bushmiller

NANCY



By Frank Robbins

JOHNNY HAZARD



Penal Experiment For Girls

Paris, May 25.

A group of Protestant Deaconesses in Paris
are making a success of a method of treating
delinquent girls as if they were in a working girls'
hostel.

The deaconesses, members of the world-
wide Federation of Protestant Deaconesses with
an international office in Amsterdam, are carrying
out their penal experiment in a comfortable home
called "The Beehive" in the crowded East End of
Paris. Their method is to give the girls more and
more responsibility as they progress in the home
from detention to semi-freedom, including freedom
to have boy friends.

Their ambition is for the girls
to regard the Beehive as a
"home from home" whilst still
keeping contact with the earlier
home surroundings to which
they must eventually return—
properly adapted, it is hoped, to
fill an honest place there again.

The Beehive, with its own
gardens and sports fields, is
situated in spacious grounds
with a hospital, a Chapel and a
maternity clinic, all run by 33
Deaconesses of the French As-
sociation of Deaconesses, helped
by students from their nursing
school and outside doctors.

THREE YEARS

The Beehive is run by seven
sisters and novices. With the
help of a psychologist and lay
teachers, these work on the re-
habilitation of between 40 and
45 girls aged between 14 and 21
at a time. Each girl spends
about three years in the Bee-
hive.

A girl sent to the Beehive by
the juvenile justice authorities,
a social welfare service or even
by her own family, starts her
re-education by joining one of
two "families" of 12 or 13 girls.

Each "family" occupies one
floor of a building and each girl
has her own simply furnished
room which she can decorate
with curtains and where she
can keep her personal treasures
such as books and photographs.

Two Deaconesses look after
each family. Punishment con-

sists of confining a girl to her
room, or depriving her of pri-
vileges, such as Sunday outings.

Gradually, the newcomers
adapt themselves, the Deacon-
esses say. They lose their
initial hostility and attitudes
springing from a background of
immorality, theft, or parental
neglect.

ANOTHER LOVE

One of these attitudes was
summed up by a recent new-
comer, Louise, who is now a
happy, co-operative member of
the Beehive. Louise told a
Deaconess bluntly: "I don't give
a halfpenny for your spiritual
love. It is another sort of love
I want." While the girls are
getting down to a "stable life",
they attend classes introducing
them to such subjects as science,
ancient history and English.
They also attend courses in
domestic science and child care.

The girls attend Bible-
reading sessions and prayers,
but no religious instruction is
given unless they ask for it.
Sometimes Catholic girls have
become Protestants, the Deacon-
esses say. Others have been
known to enter a Convent on
leaving the Beehive.

On Sundays, the girls are
taken on visits to museums,
theatres and cinemas in parties
of six or seven. In the summer,
they are taken on picnics.

After this stage, a girl is pro-
moted to the vital section of
the Deaconesses' rehabilitation
experiment—the "Home of
Semi-Freedom". An average of
eight to ten girls in the family
move into this phase, which
concentrates on "progressive
readaptation to freedom" and
professional training.

DISCIPLINE RELAXED

Here, the discipline is re-
laxed. The girls go out every
day to follow courses in short-
hand, dressmaking and other
subjects. After work, they can
retire to their rooms or chat in
the gaily decorated common
sitting room.

On Sundays, they are free to
go out alone to theatres and
cinemas, join Girl Guide
groups, visit their families and
go out with boy friends.

The Deaconesses regard a
steady boy friend as a "stabilis-
ing influence" on the girls, pro-
vided that he has offered a
minimum guarantee from a
moral point of view, by intro-
ducing her to his family and
calling on the Deaconesses.

Eventually, a girl is regard-
ed as fit to leave the Beehive
and return to normal life. Be-
tween eight and ten girls
"graduate" every year.

Tall, energetic Pastor Gustave
Lagny, who is director of the
Deaconesses' Association of
France, says that roughly three
quarters of the girls passing
through the Beehive are success-
fully rehabilitated from a social
point of view.

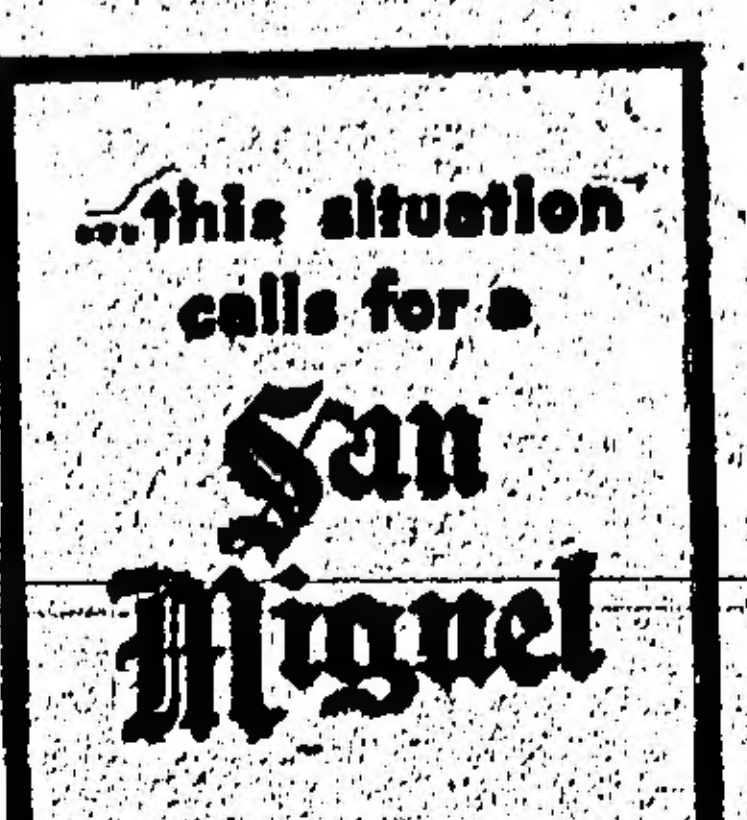
The Pastor, who studied
theology at Cambridge Univer-
sity, England, before World War
II, says that most of the girls
marry and have children. Many
return to visit their "old school"
with their children.

RETURN

Girls who find the pace of
outside life too trying are allow-
ed to return to the Beehive for
a short stay to "get away from
it all". And even the few fail-
ures may eventually return to
the Deaconesses' care, for they
have evangelists dealing with
former women prisoners and
prostitutes.

The delinquent children pass-
ing through the Beehive are only
a small part of some 2,000
girls arrested every year in
France for delinquency, 25 to 30
per cent of them for theft and
60 to 70 per cent for prostitu-
tion.

But the sisters claim that they
are at least showing a success-
ful way to rehabilitate minors
and keep them from crime.
Pastor Lagny says that the
French Justice authorities regard
the Beehive as one of the
"most successful" of the many
organisations in France which
deal with juvenile delinquents.
—China Mail Special.



TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

Mr Michel Eyseuuo, Minister of Oil Industries Construction, was named Minister of the Oil Industry, while Alexis Korchunov, was named Minister of Oil Industries Construction.

It was the first time that the name of Mr Korchunov has appeared, and the decree did not mention what post he had held previously. —France-Presse.

Consolidated Edison	49 1/2
Continental Steel	49 1/2
Coca-Cola Products	49 1/2
Crawe Co.	70
Crown Zellerbach	46 1/2
Danaher Corp.	16 1/2
Curtis Wright	48 1/2
Dupont de Nemours	92 1/2
Eaton Corp.	49 1/2
El Paso National Gas	84 1/2
Electric	49 1/2
General Foods	47 1/2
General Motors	49 1/2
Gillette Safety Razor	49 1/2
Gibson Co.	49 1/2
Goodrich B. F. Co.	49 1/2
Harsco Corp.	50 1/2
Hormatske, Mining Co.	43 1/2
Indiana Steel Co.	41 1/2
Ingersoll Rand Machs	42 1/2
International Paper	46
Int'l Tel. & Tel.	27 1/2
Kaiser Aluminum Co.	43 1/2
Kennecott Copper	109
Knight Meyers Tsh. Co.	41 1/2
Lewis Erectors	26 1/2
Mackay-McCormick Co.	61 1/2
Louisville & Nashville R.	86 1/2
Minnesota Mining	83 1/2
National Cash Reg.	70 1/2
National Cash Reg. A	40 1/2
National Distillers	49 1/2
National Electric	60 1/2
National Steel Corp.	49 1/2
New York Central	49 1/2
Pacific Gas & Elec.	47 1/2
Pacific Western Oil	41 1/2
Pan American Airways	18
Paramount Pictures	43 1/2
Parker Davis Co.	43
Petroleum Co. Inc.	91 1/2
Phillips Petroleum	75 1/2
Procter & Gamble Co.	91 1/2
Railway C. Co.	73
Ryan Corporation	49 1/2
Rev Motors	18 1/2
Republic Steel	52
Safeway Stores	56 1/2
Sinclair Oil	53
Socoxy Vacuum	53 1/2
Standard Oil of Cal.	73 1/2
Standard Oil (Dom.)	43 1/2
Standard Oil of N.J.	71 1/2
Stockley-Van Camp	11 1/2
Studebaker-Packard Corp.	17 1/2
Swire Pacific Lines	164 1/2
Texas Co.	91 1/2
Union Carbide	91 1/2
United Pac. Ry. & Nav.	164 1/2
U.S. Gas, Imp.	73 1/2
U.S. Gypsum	22 1/2
U.S. Lumber	49 1/2
U.S. Rubber	49 1/2
U.S. Smelting	49 1/2
U.S. Steel	87 1/2
Western Electric	35 1/2
Westhouse Electric	82 1/2
Weist Va. Pulp & Paper	49 1/2
Woolworth	49 1/2

—Unit Press.

[illegible]

Zinc	May	11.2
	June	11.2
Copper	May	39.0
	June	38.2
		—United Press

"BIR HAKEIM"	sailing June 29
"MEKONG"	sailing July 8

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THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1955.

SHEAFFER'S
"SNORKEL" PEN
ADMIRAL

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Going Down

HELEN was as pretty a girl as ever kicked the dust of the provinces off the heels of size four shoes and danced into London in search of fun, fame, and fortune.

Dark hair flowed back from her young, intelligent forehead, her tip-tilted nose, challenged the gravity of any situation, and her grey eyes imposed a trust that seemed binding upon anyone she looked at for more than a moment.

When she first appeared in the dock at Bow Street and pleaded guilty to being found drunk, that seemed no more than an accident, however regrettable.

LOTS OF PLANS
THEN Helen was shown into the dock for a second time on the same charge. And soon she was appearing nearly every month.

Small snippets from her history were told. Help was proffered. Helen shrugged it away and went back to her bed-sitting room. She no longer dreamed of fame or fortune, and she dared not think of the future.

All she had time for was to plot and plan where the next drink could come from. The other evening when this urgent problem she dwelt with had not been finally solved, Helen found herself at Victoria Station.

INDIFFERENT BUDES
It was early, but already Helen had drunk as much as would satisfy most people for some hours at least. But for her the drinks she had taken served only to give her a thirst.

Buses were congregating, as they do, before the station, and something about their scold, scold, respectability, the police difference to her struck Helen like a whip's lash.

She clambered on to the platform of the nearest bus and began to scream blasphemies at the patient passengers inside. She was put off the bus, and tried to climb back. The police were called and she was taken away, crying out curses on London Transport, its patrons, the police, and all people in better plight than herself.

HUNTER AND QUARRY
AT Bow Street next morning, when she was charged with being drunk and disorderly, Helen said gravely to the chief magistrate, Sir Laurence Dunne: "No, sir, I don't plead guilty this morning. For the first time, I plead not guilty."

Her soft voice was all that was left to remind you of her as she had been a year or two before, before too much drinking drained away her colour and drew deep lines in her face. Her hair now was tangled, uncombed mop, and there was a hunted look in her eyes. She was the huntress—and the quarry.

The story was briefly told, then Sir Laurence asked Helen what she had to say.

IT WAS JUST A TRAGEDY
"I know, sir," she cried. "I'm just a tragedy. I'm past redemption. But I don't want to be victimised. I was keyed up last night, but I wasn't drunk. Don't let me be victimised. All I can do is ask for justice—the steel is up to you."

The chief magistrate nodded towards the gaffer that he had found the case proved. "Six times this year, sir," the gaffer said, taking his cue.

Sir Laurence turned to Helen. "You call yourself a tragedy," he said, "and to you are you cannot leave this drink alone. Pay 40s, or go to prison for 28 days."

Helen had no money for the fine. She shrugged and went away, slowly, like an old, tired woman—Helen, who a year or two ago had been so gay and pretty, and who now was coming close to the point of no return to happiness.

TORIES START FAVOURITES

(Continued from Page 1)

"The fortunes of Great Britain may well be affected by the elections taken tomorrow," Sir Winston told voters in a traditional eve-of-poll tour of his Woodford district. The BBC readied a mammoth election day programme. It hired a special electronic "brain" to predict results and mobilised many TV cameras than covered the Coronation—United Press.

Printed and published by WILLIAM ALICE GRIBBAM for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

UNION INSURANCE SETS A NEW RECORD Premiums Exceed £10,000,000

At the annual general meeting of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., held this morning in Union Building, the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Hon. C. Blaker, M.C., ED., was able to inform shareholders that for the first time the aggregate net premium for Marine, Fire and Accident business had passed £10,000,000.

This, he observed, was a notable figure, particularly in these days of severe competition.

Reporting on the year's activities, the Chairman said:

In my Statement upon the Society's affairs which accompanied the printed Accounts I have remarked upon the matters mainly affecting our Underwriting Accounts during the twelve months under review and I would now draw your attention to a record which has been achieved but is not self-evident from the Revenue Accounts. The aggregate net premium for Marine, Fire and Accident business has for the first time surpassed ten million pounds. This is a notable figure, particularly in these days of severe competition.

The clash of ideologies in the Far East and in Indo-China again last year. Gone are the days when oriental wars could settle their differences locally without creating a ripple on the international scene. The terror of modern contrivances of war involving as they would the very existence of civilisation, is already sufficiently realised to make any threat of the subject of immediate international investigation in an endeavour to prevent the beginning of a universal holocaust.

In the short years since 1945 the Society's Far Eastern background has thus become merged into the far wider framework of the world's political picture.

ACCOUNT EXPANDS

Turning now to our Revenue Accounts the premium received in the Marine Department shows a fall of £78,922 from £3,492,101 to £3,413,179. This does not indicate a reduction in marine liabilities assumed; in fact the reverse is the case and our Marine Account continues to expand. The lower aggregate premium results from the need to meet competition on a world-wide basis coupled with an appreciable reduction in war risk rates for most voyages during the last quarter of the year.

The substantial Marine fund representing more than 154% of the 1954 premium is considered fully adequate to meet all outstanding losses. The year has been reasonably free of major disasters in the Marine field but fires, collisions and particularly theft and pilferage claims have resulted in a loss ratio to premium of 74%. Whilst the present scramble for Marine cargo business continues and indiscriminate rate cutting is a feature of many markets, we can look for little if any improvement in the percentage of losses to premiums.

GOOD RESULTS

The Fire Department continues to produce particularly good results in spite of 1954 having been beset by a series of catastrophes in the areas in which we operate. Three severe hurricanes were experienced on the Eastern Seaboard of the United States, two of which swept into Canada causing much devastation. Extensive damage was also caused by the March earthquake in Adelaide and by a conflagration in Winnipeg. Despite moderate setback from these calamities a satisfactory profit margin was obtained.

The Fire fund has been further strengthened and at the impressive figure of £2,007,079 not only provides the requisite normal reserve for annual policies and the longer-term contracts customary in Canada and America, but protects the account against possible adversity resulting from exceptional losses of catastrophic proportions.

I have again to record substantial progress in the Accident and General business where the premium income has increased by £461,556 to £3,090,024. The underwriting of Motor Insurance continues to present difficulties in certain fields and these are reflected in a higher claims ratio to premium than that for the previous year. Acquisition costs were also somewhat higher in 1954. After taking into account the substantially increased sum retained for unexpected risks called for by the increased premium, a profit of £22,075 is realised.

Our Canadian Subsidiary the Beaver Insurance Co. has made satisfactory progress with a total premium increase of 20.85%. Previously only a Fire Insurance Company, the "Beaver" has developed some two years ago into the classes of business transacted by the Society's Group.

Our Subsidiary the North Pacific Insurance Co., Ltd. is also beginning to benefit from its introduction into Canada last year.

There has been some reduction in taxation during the past year in a number of the areas in which we operate and this is reflected in the reduced provision for taxation called for this year.

With the continued increase in our investment earnings which are shown in the Consolidated Profit & Loss Account less such taxation as is deducted at source, your Directors are able to recommend an increase of two shillings and six pence in the final dividend making a total payment of £2,226 for the year. It is also proposed to increase our share capital by the issue of one new share for every nine shares now held and you will have received notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held immediately after the Ordinary Yearly Meeting to pass the necessary resolutions for this purpose. It is anticipated that the annual dividend will be maintained for the current year on the increased Capital.

INTERESTS PROTECTED

Shareholders will, I am sure, appreciate this safeguarding of their interests and the fact that this capitalisation of reserves brings the Society's Issued Capital more into line with the larger resources employed as a result of expansion in recent years.

In conformity with the Society's policy to build its reserves commensurate with its expanding liabilities the General Reserve has been increased to £1,500,000 which will be the amount of the Issued Capital if the resolutions to be placed before the Extraordinary General Meeting are passed. It is once again my pleasure to record the enthusiastic and loyal service of our staff and agents who contribute so much to our progress and development.

NEW CAPITAL

At an extraordinary general meeting which followed the Ordinary Yearly Meeting, two resolutions were approved. They were to increase the issued

capital of the Society from £1,350,000 to £1,500,000 by the creation of fifteen thousand new shares of £10 each and to employ a sum of £150,000 for this purpose from the undivided profits of the Society standing to the credit of the Exchange and Investment Fluctuation Account, and that such shares credited as fully paid up be distributed amongst the shareholders who on May 26, 1955 were registered shareholders of the Society, in the proportion of one new share for every nine then held.

Both resolutions were proposed by the Chairman, the first being seconded by Mr. A. W. Black and the second by Mr. B. W. Bradbury. Both were adopted.

The above two meetings were preceded by the annual general meetings of the British Traders Insurance Co., Ltd. and the North Pacific Insurance Co., Ltd. Present were:

Hon. C. Blaker, M.C., E.D. (Chairman), Messrs B. T. Flanagan, J. H. Ham, H. Owen Hughes, J. F. Macgregor (Directors), L. B. Stone (General Manager) and D. B. Sinclair (Assistant General Manager).

Messrs H. J. Armstrong, A. W. Black, C. C. Blaker, W. Bradbury, J. L. Bray, T. H. C. Brophy, N. V. A. Croucher (representing Commonwealth Investment Ltd. and Kelly & Walsh Ltd.), H. B. L. Dowbiggin, A. Drummond, P. Dunt, S. M. Garrard, H. M. C. Goovey, J. I. Corrie Hill, J. Dickson Leach, H. S. Lee, J. B. H. Leckie, C. Maclean, J. A. Martin (representing Union Ltd.), K. A. Miller (representing Lowe Bingham & Matthews), J. R. Padgett, D. L. Prophet (representing Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co.), L. P. Ralph, J. A. Remedios, Mrs E. M. Stopford-Thomson, E. H. Smyth, Wat Lum, and R. Zindell.

Israeli-Egyptian Clash

4-23
Gaza, May 25.
Egyptian and Israeli guns put up a 15-minute barrage today to force an Israeli plane to leave Egyptian airspace, it was reported here.
Egypt has sent a strong protest to the United Nations Committee over the unauthorized flight. —France-Press.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"If you'll be gone three days, you'd better take these pictures of us so you won't get desperate and rush home and lose your job!"

Robbery With Knives Accusation

Chan Chi-ping, 32, and Chan Shing, alias Hak Chai, 22, appeared before Mr. T. Crendon at Kowloon this morning charged with robbery of a couple while armed with knives at 3 Sin Lai Wan, Lai-chikok, on May 22.

It was alleged that one of the victims, Lam Siu-kan, was robbed of a wrist watch, a fountain pen, an electric torch and \$7.50, while his woman companion, Ko Kit-fong, was relieved of a finger-ring and a purse containing \$1.80. Both defendants were remanded for three days for further enquiries.

WOMAN'S DESPERATE PLIGHT

An expectant mother told Mr. T. Crendon at Kowloon Court this morning that she was "in desperate financial circumstances" when she pawned two sewing machines without the authority of their owner.

The woman, Liu Ying-lin, 34, of no fixed abode, was charged with unlawfully pawning the machines, and was bound over in \$500 for one year.

She told Mr. Crendon that she had two daughters and one son to support. Her husband, she added, was a former Hongkong businessman and was now under detention by the Communists in China. She had been ill and there was no one to look after her children.

The two machines were valued at \$250 each and had been pawned for \$100. They were the property of Wong Chiu.

US Exports To HK Up

Washington, May 25.
United States exports to Hongkong climbed sharply during March, the U.S. Department of Commerce announced today. Imports from Hongkong remained at the same level as in February, however.

The Department, "in a report on trade for March, said US exports to Hongkong during March totalled US\$4,700,000, compared to US\$4,000,000 during February. Imports from the Colony totalled US\$1,200,000, the same figure as for February.

The Commerce Department said further that overall trade with Asia gained in both directions during March. Imports increased from Japan, India, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. —United Press.

Public Mischief Charge

LAC Mohammed Noor Din Ahmad, member of the RAF Regiment, Kai Tak, was remanded for three clear days in RAF custody by Mr. T. Crendon at Kowloon this morning on a charge of public mischief.

Defendant was alleged to have made a false statement to the Police on May 22, stating that he was robbed on that day of \$140, thus "temporarily depriving the public of the service of the said public officers liege subject of the Queen liable to suspicion, accusation and arrest; and in doing so, did unlawfully effect public mischief."

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.
6 p.m., Time Signal and Programmes Summary; 6.05, Jazz Hour presented by Robert Ascherson (Studio); 6.30, Portuguese Ball Hour (Studio); 7.00, Weather Report; 7.30, The Road to Westminster (London Relay); 8.00, Commentary (London Relay); 8.15, Special Announcement; 8.15, Masquerade Suite (Khai-chikok); 8.30, "Boldness be my friend" Adapted from the Book by Richard Fawcett Produced by Alan Burgess (BBC); 9.00, Time Signal; 9.05, Sports Review (Studio); 9.15, A. B. C. Opera; "Pavilion" (Lancaster); 9.30, The Road to Westminster and Orchestral Suite by the Chinese and Orchestral Suite by the Chinese; 10.00, News; 10.30, News; 10.50, Weather Report; 11.00, Time Signal; 11.15, Goodnight Music; 11.30, Save The Queen; 11.50, Close Down.

2 Men Appeal Against Death Sentence

An appeal against sentence of death was brought by Yam Kwan-pak, alias Ah Kwan, 20, and Ho Kwong-tang, alias Ah Tang, 22, before the Full Court this morning.

Appellants were found guilty of the murder of Lui Shing, Police Constable No. 558 on December 6, 1954, and sentenced to death by Mr. Justice J. R. Gregg on March 7.

Mr. Perry Chen was re-assigned to appear for the first appellant, instructed by Messrs Wilkinson and Grist.

Appearing for the second appellant was Mr. W. K. Lo, previously instructed by Messrs Woo and Woo.

The Crown was represented by Mr. J. C. McRobert, Crown Counsel.

The Full Court comprised the Acting Chief Justice, Mr. Justice T. J. Gould and the Acting Puisne Judge, Mr. Justice James Wickes.

Mr. Chen said that in presenting the appeal, he would first deal with the facts and he referred to the opening of the Senior Crown Counsel at the trial.

THE FACTS

Counsel said that the facts were that sometime previous to December 6 a young boy, Wong Wah-ling, was playing a ball game in the Pul Tung playground in Kowloon. He had an altercation with another man, named Lui, and blows were struck. Thereafter Wong met his friend Yuen Kin-sang who introduced him to second appellant. Second appellant then invited the two youths to go to a rooftop in Yiu Cheung Street.

Mr. Chen submitted that in the Crown's opening, an untrue statement was made, to which he did not object at the time. He asked the Court to reconsider whether the description of the second appellant and his associates at the early stage of the case might not have prejudiced the minds of the jury against second appellant. Counsel referred the Court to the record in which Crown Counsel stated: "We say of course that this hut on the rooftop of No. 17 (Yiu Cheung Street) was a hideout or retreat of a gang of very unscrupulous young men, members of an organisation called the 14-K and that these three accused are of that gang. We say further that the second accused is the leader of that gang although he did not strike the fatal blow, but he is the leader of that gang."

The facts were that there was an initiation ceremony of some kind going on at the time.

BOY'S EVIDENCE

On December 6 a schoolboy, Yuen Kin-sang was travelling home by bus from his school in Woosung Street, which was near to the Jordan Road Ferry and he passed this Hungnam playground in the afternoon. He stated in his evidence that he saw Lui with Wong Wah-ling in the playground. He then went home and after his meal went to the Sung Wong Toi playground, which was near to Kai Tak. There he stated and Counsel said there was no corroboration of the statement—that he met first and second appellants and a third man who was tried with the two appellants in the lower Court. This man, Counsel said, was Lam Fak, brother of the first appellant. Counsel further stated that it was a fact that these two men were very similar in appearance; there was evidence of that on the record.

Continuing, Counsel said that according to the story of Yuen Kin-sang, these four persons proceeded to the Pul Tung playground, which was between the Bailey shipyard and Kai Tak, and there met Wong Wah-ling. Mr. Chen pointed out that Wong in his evidence did not corroborate Yuen because Wong did not say that first appellant and his brother were together with the second appellant at the time, so that the statement of Yuen—whom the Crown even admitted to be an accomplice—that first appellant and his brother went with them from Sung Wong Toi playground to the Pul Tung playground was not corroborated.

CROWN'S CASE

They did not find at the Pul Tung playground Lui whom they set out to find, because this person was at the Hungnam playground at the time. The five men then went to the Hungnam playground and there it was alleged that a fracas took place.

From Our Files 100 Years Ago

At the last Sessions of the Criminal Court, we chanced to be present during the trial of ten men, who, it seemed to us, were convicted on very slender evidence, and of such a nature that, had they been provided with counsel as all prisoners ought to be, they must have been acquitted. We refer to the case "No. 3, Ng-hee-ich, and nine others," charged with "Fracas" receiving stolen goods.

One of the two witnesses against the prisoners admitted that they had had business transactions, together, which were then unsettled; and this—apart from the asseveration of the prisoners that they were traders who had some dispute with the witnesses—gave us the impression that the prosecution had been the result of spite, or a scheme to profit by the conviction of disreputable creditors. There was another suspicious point in the evidence, which the counsel would not have suffered to pass,—that the offence was committed when it was too dark clearly to distinguish individuals; yet the witnesses had no difficulty, upon the most cursory glance, to recognise all the ten men in the dock.

MERCY PLEASE

We beg to say that we know nothing whatever about the prisoners except from what we observed during the trial, and refer to their case now, because the Queen's Birthday is approaching, when it is usual in this Colony to exercise the prerogative of mercy in pardoning such prisoners as seem most deserving of favour; and though there may be other cases claiming equal or greater consideration, of which we know nothing, we trust to be excused for directing attention to one with which we have such acquaintance as the trial afforded. The men, we believe, will be better members of society if now restored to their wives and families, than after two years' moral hardening on the roads,—to say nothing of the chance of their occupying the Colony of the expense of keeping them.

The pardons, we trust, will likewise include a woman who has been in confinement for about a year, and a soldier, condemned to seven years' transportation, who has been doing his time in prison, or according to penal reckoning at home, more than equivalent to ten years' transportation.

CORRECT VERSION

Last week we have two opposite versions of a fatal encounter between Woodberry, late master of the Sarah Moore, and his notoriously used passenger Ross. It turns out that the second version was the correct one,—not that Woodberry had stabbed Ross, but that Ross had stabbed Woodberry.

The following particulars are from the eye-witness of the occurrence.

Woodberry had just landed at the Governor's wharf, in company with the captain and mate of a Prussian brig, and was proceeding along the Quay, when they were met by Ross at the foot of the Governor's lane, who, exclaiming, "I've got you at last!" or words to that effect, manfully rushed at Woodberry, and a scuffle ensued. They were separated by the Prussian captain, and Woodberry got away a few steps, when Ross made up to him again, and was seen to give him a blow. Woodberry then turned, and made for the Guard-house, followed by Ross. The latter was immediately seized, or gave himself up, and was conveyed to prison. The wounded man lost a large quantity of blood before being carried to the Hospital, where he died about 11 o'clock in the morning.

THE DEFENCE

It is reported that Ross in his defence says the knife was not his, but Woodberry's; that the latter drew it, when he (Ross) wrestled it out of his hand, and stabbed him, not meaning to kill him. Had such been his intention, he says, he should have stabbed him in the side, not in the hip.

The trial will take place before the Judge at Macao and the prevailing impression is that if Ross is found guilty, it will be of manslaughter with mitigating circumstances; but it is not improbable his act will be regarded as justifiable homicide; for, in addition to his grievous provocation, it seems that the result of a post-mortem examination by the Portuguese surgeons satisfied them that Woodberry did not die of his wound, but of excessive drinking.

We have been furnished with documents which show the story trumped up by the friends of Woodberry, as to the reason of Ross being put on shore at Rotamah to be a cause of falsehood, while they bravely put up with the most brilliant view of his recent act, but there is not room for them this week.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local offices. Registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

THURSDAY, MAY 26

By Air
Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Macao, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 27

By Air
Thailand, 8 a.m.
Formosa, Japan, Korea, 10 a.m.
Indo-China, 11 a.m.
Philippines, 2 p.m.
Formosa, 6 p.m.

By Surface
Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
U.S.A., Canada, 8 p.m.

Macao, 8 a.m.
China, People's Republic, 9.30 a.m.
Malaya, Ceylon, Pakistan, Aden, Middle East, Italy, 2 p.m.
Macao, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 28

By Air
Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand & Ceylon, 8 a.m.
Philippines, 2 p.m.
Indo-China, France, 2 p.m.
Philippines, N. Borneo, 6 p.m.
Japan, Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 8 p.m.

By Surface
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Ceylon, Korea, 6 p.m.

By Surface
China, People's Republic, 9.30 a.m.
Indo-China, 11 a.m.
Malaya, Burma, India, Noon.
Philippines, 2 p.m.
Japan, Canada, 1 p.m.
Macao, 130 p.m.

Korea, 2 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

Troopship Sails

The troopship Empire Clyde sailed for the United Kingdom at noon today with time-expired troops and some 60 families of Service personnel who have completed their overseas tour of duty.